

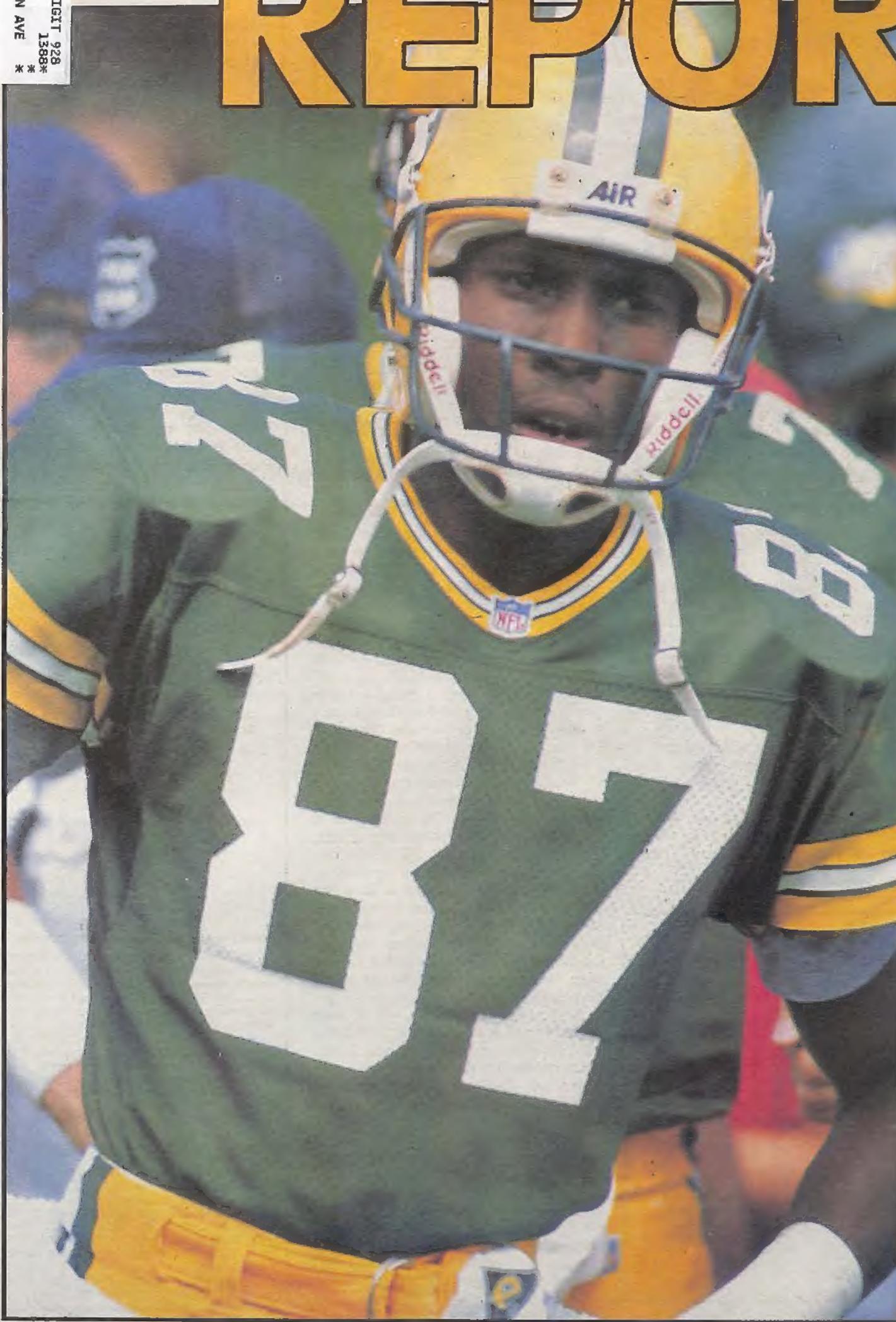
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Ray Mitchell's

PACKER REPORT



A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
GREEN BAY PACKERS AND THE NFL.

Vol. 21 No. 11 October 16, 1993

Packers 30,
Broncos 27

Quarterly
Report

E. Bennett
Brunell
featured

Pros
sing
Anthems



Commentary

Packers, 2-3, bounce back with enough big plays to win

Overall, this is a very important game early in the season. When you consider how soundly the Packers were beaten last week, to come up with a game like this — what a very excellent win for the players and for the fans.

As you look at the game, the Packers got a big lead by playing really hard and then they sat on it. I believe you have to start putting the other team away. Somehow you've got to do it.

Sunday night, it took the Packers until the last two plays of the game (the last that mattered, anyway) to put the Broncos away. Reggie's two sacks at the end of the game, finally put Denver down for the count, with 1:27 left.

You can't take anybody for granted

RAY NITSCHKE

and I don't believe the Packers did. When you are ahead — especially against a John Elway, it's never over. John Elway has proven time and time again that he is one of the great comeback quarterbacks. Any team with him is in it, no matter how many points you are ahead of them.

One of the things which kept the Packers from putting Denver away was some second-half turnovers — something they didn't have in the first half. They hurt. The interception by linebacker Mike Croel turned the momentum toward Denver in the second half. The Packers never really got that momentum back.

The big picture is: This should help the morale of the team. There were a lot of positives here. But there are also a lot of things to learn from. A lot of good things happened but a lot of bad things happened too.

They have a lot to learn from here —



Reggie White made the big plays at the end of the game, but tight end Jackie Harris made several in the first half, including a 66-yard touchdown. He finished with five catches for 128 yards.

— David J. Garot photo

lining up in the wrong place, plus some other stupid penalties. They will work on that.

One thing I particularly liked was the fact you saw some guys come up with some BIG plays — plays like George Teague taking the ball away from a kick returner, Jackie Harris had some big plays. Sterling Sharpe made some big catches. And there were no bigger plays in the game than the two sacks at the very end of the game.

Now the thing the Packers have to do is they have to do that every week. If not one guy, another. They need big plays each and every week.

The biggest thing I find fault with on this team is I don't see any take-charge guys out there, especially on offense.

Reggie leads in his own way on defense. Sterling Sharpe does it by example. But they don't have any real, jack-em-up vocal leaders. They need some vocal guys. They need more fire.

They had it somewhat in the first half when they were making big plays and doing things. In the second half, they were really flat.

They have to keep it going for four quarters. Even with 30-7 lead, you can't sit on it. You gotta do the same things that got you there. You've got to keep same level of intensity for 60 minutes not 30.

You hate to say so early that this was a must-win, but I think it was, especially with a week off now. The spirits have to be high — they always are after a win. You can take that spirit and momentum into the bye week and that's a big positive. It's a much better deal than to have lost this game and sit around and let that fester for 10 days or so — especially when you consider that had the Packers lost this team, they would have been 0-3 for the three weeks between the byes and would have lost four in a row.

So clearly this was a big win. It could not have come at a bigger time. I think this will help them not only in the next couple weeks but through the whole season.

It would have been a tough, tough loss for them to play here in Green Bay and get beat.

I was sitting out in the stadium late in the game and noting how wonderful the Packers fans are. They were making a lot of noise. They sat on their hands in the third quarter — because their team was not doing much. But the last few series of plays in the fourth quarter, man, that tells you why the Packer fans are the best fans in all of pro football.

It was awesome.

A big victory against a good opponent.

Ray Nitschke PACKER REPORT

A Royle Publication devoted exclusively to the Green Bay Packers and the NFL.

Vol. 21 No. 11 Oct. 16, 1993

On the cover...

Kick returner/wide receiver Robert Brooks, who returned a kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown Oct. 3 at Dallas.

— David J. Garot photo

In the middle ...

Tackle Joe Sims.

— David J. Garot photo

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NFL standings

NATIONAL CONFERENCE**Central**

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Chicago	3	2	0	.600	97	59
Detroit	3	2	0	.600	88	90
Minnesota	3	2	0	.600	66	82
Green Bay	2	3	0	.400	110	104
Tampa Bay	1	4	0	.200	54	122

Eastern

N.Y. Giants	4	1	0	.800	124	61
Philadelphia	4	1	0	.800	118	112
Dallas	3	2	0	.600	106	75
Phoenix	1	4	0	.200	85	99
Washington	1	4	0	.200	93	125

Western

New Orleans	5	0	0	1.000	134	74
San Francisco	3	2	0	.600	125	101
L.A. Rams	2	3	0	.400	77	106
Atlanta	0	5	0	.000	91	152

AMERICAN CONFERENCE**Eastern**

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Miami	4	1	0	.800	101	81
Buffalo	3	1	0	.750	81	60
Indianapolis	2	3	0	.400	68	102
N.J. Jets	2	3	0	.400	139	106
New England	1	4	0	.200	74	140

Central

Cleveland	3	2	0	.600	93	90
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	108	78
Houston	1	3	0	.333	81	79
Cincinnati	0	5	0	.000	52	106

Western

Kansas City	4	1	0	.800	83	64
Denver	3	2	0	.600	129	95
L.A. Raiders	3	2	0	.600	90	83
Seattle	3	2	0	.600	92	73
San Diego	2	3	0	.400	70	110

Pack hangs on for 500th win

White sacks Elway to secure it

by Joe DiGiovanni

For years, John Elway has been the master of last-minute victories, leading Denver to 24 fourth-quarter comebacks in 10 seasons.

For years, Reggie White has been the master at stopping great quarterbacks.

White sacked Elway twice with less than two minutes to play to stop a Broncos' drive and give the Packers a 30-27 victory Sunday night despite a furious 20-point Denver rally.

The Broncos took possession at the Green Bay 43 with 2:05 left, but the nine-year veteran sacked Elway on third and fourth down to preserve the victory before 58,943 fans at Lambeau Field.

"It would have been very devastating (to lose)," White said. "Those were the greatest two plays of my career."

Denver, 3-2, used only one blocker on White the final possession, sending tight end Shannon Sharpe downfield as a receiver. The defensive end said he was tired in the final minutes after rushing Elway during most of his 59 pass attempts.

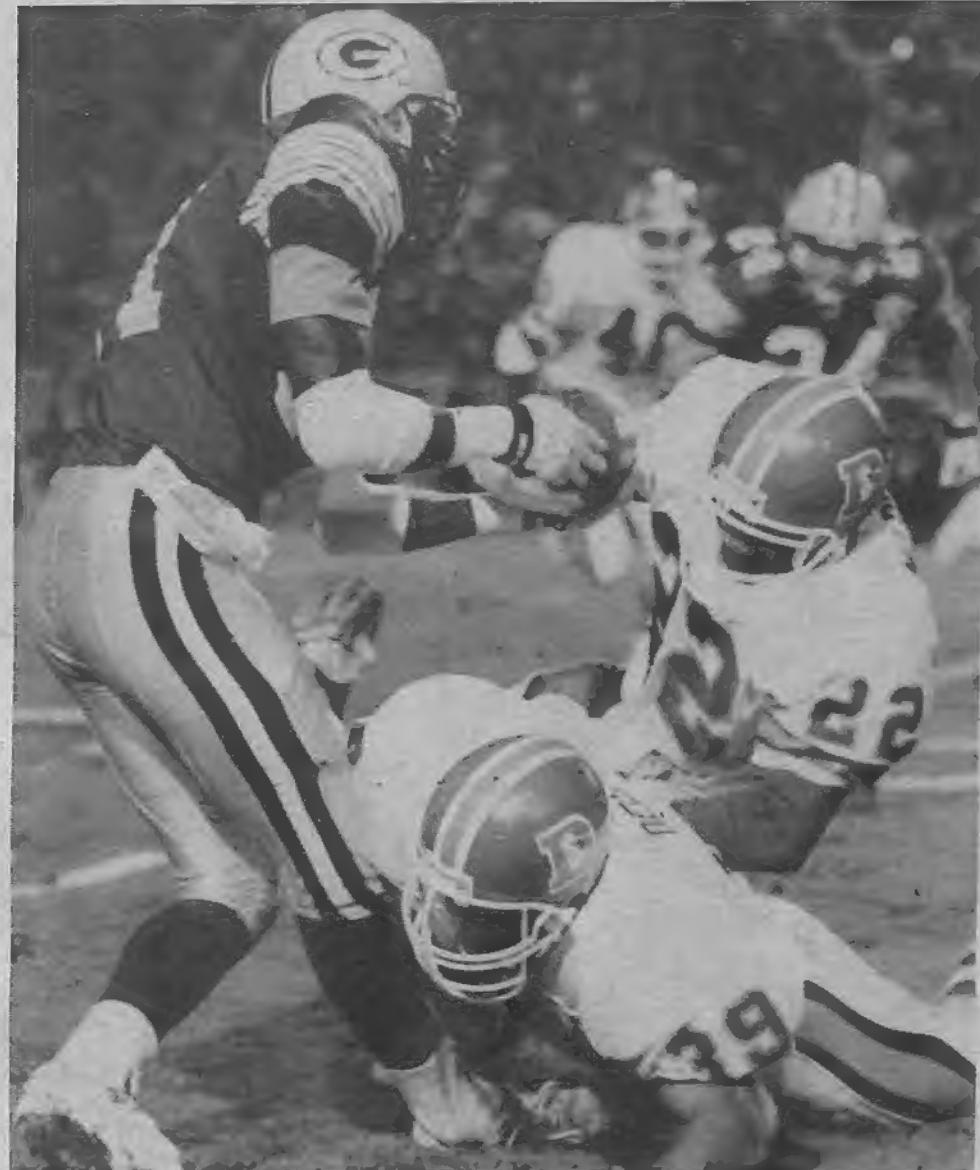
"It was sheer will," said White, who had three sacks and five tackles. "The most stressful job in the League is rushing the passer and they threw the ball so many times."

Packer stats fall off in second half

Green Bay, 2-3, led, 30-7, at halftime, but managed only 61 total yards and two first downs in the second half. Brett Favre played well in the first half, but threw for only 53 yards and had three interceptions after intermission.

With the Packers leading, 30-27, and less than three minutes remaining, Favre, under a fierce blitz, threw an interception to cornerback Le-Lo Lang at the Packer 43. Rod Bernstein rushed for no gain on first down and Elway's second-down pass was incomplete.

White then sacked Elway for an eight-yard loss to the Denver 49 and followed



In his first professional start, free safety George Teague came up with his first fumble recovery, on this special-teams play. He stripped the ball from a fellow rookie, kick returner Glyn Milburn, and recovered it himself.

— David J. Garot photo

that with a 14-yard sack on fourth down to seal the victory with 1:27 left. Favre downed the ball three plays to run out the clock and give the Packers' their 500th victory in 75 seasons.

"It kind of was a big ol' sigh," said safety LeRoy Butler, who had six tackles and three assists. "If you pick a comeback kid, who do you take? A la Elway."

Denver had not given up a first-quarter touchdown all season, but the Packers scored two TDs and a field goal to lead, 17-0, after one quarter. The Broncos did not give up more than 20 points in any of their first four games, but Green Bay

effectively picked on Denver's 28th-rated pass defense to open the lead.

Croel's INT TD turns game around

The Broncos stormed back in the second half, scoring touchdowns on linebacker Mike Croel's 28-yard interception return and Bernstein's two-yard run to come within 30-21 with 3:45 left in the third quarter.

Jason Elam hit a 47-yard field goal to bring the Broncos within 30-24 with 14:13 to go in the game and booted a 37-yard field goal to make it 30-27 with 8:31

left. Green Bay failed to get a first down in the third quarter and gained only eight yards on 12 rushes the entire second half.

Elway finished with 367 yards passing and set personal records of 33 completions and 59 attempts. Teammate Vance Johnson had 10 receptions for 148 yards.

Denver linebacker Karl Mecklenburg was unable to cover Jackie Harris in the first half, allowing the tight end to gain 116 yards on three receptions, including a 66-yard touchdown. Chris Jacke converted three short field goals in the half. Favre was 13-of-20 for 182 yards in the half.

Robert Brooks took the opening kickoff 54 yards to set up a 28-yard field goal by Jacke with 10:29 left in the first quarter.

On the Packers' next possession, Green Bay drove to the 18, and on third down Favre scrambled left to the 1.

Stephens, Teague, Simmons make big plays

John Stephens went behind left tackle Ken Ruettgers for his first touchdown as a Packer on the next play, giving Green Bay a 10-0 lead with 5:10 to go.

George Teague stripped the ball from Glyn Milburn on the ensuing kickoff return, giving Green Bay the ball at its 22. Edgar Bennett caught a five-yard reception to the 1 and went left around Mecklenburg into the end zone to give Green Bay a 17-0 lead with 59 seconds left in the quarter.

Elway connected with Johnson for a 14-yard touchdown reception to bring Denver within 17-7 with 11:33 to go in the second quarter. On Green Bay's next possession, Harris went untouched down the middle, beat Mecklenburg and caught Favre's pass for a 66-yard touchdown, giving the Packers a 24-7 lead with 11:09 left in the quarter.

On Denver's next drive, rookie linebacker Wayne Simmons deflected Elway's pass and intercepted it, returning the ball 19 yards to the Broncos' 23 and setting up Jacke's 32-yard field goal for a 27-7 lead with 7:26 to go.

The Broncos were stopped on fourth down at Green Bay's 38 on their next possession. Three plays later, Harris beat Mecklenburg again for a 37-yard catch, setting up Jacke's 21-yard field goal for a 30-7 lead with 1:36 to go in the half.

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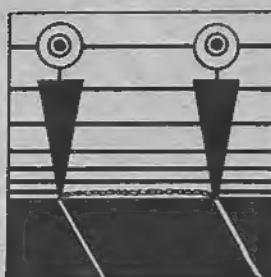
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GAME STATISTICS

SCORING SUMMARY

Denver Broncos	0	7	14	6	27
Green Bay Packers	17	13	0	0	30
Packers, 1:10:29, C. Jacke 28-yard field goal (10-11, 4:31) 0-3					
Packers, 1, 5:10, J. Stephens 1-yard run (C. Jacke, kick) (8-65, 4:17) 0-10					
Packers, 1, 0:59, E. Bennett 1-yard run (C. Jacke, kick) (8-22, 4:11) 0-17					
Broncos, 2, 11:33, V. Johnson 14-yard pass from J. Elway (J. Elam, kick) (11-88, 4:26) 7-17					
Packers, 2, 11:09, J. Harris 66-yard pass from B. Favre (C. Jacke, kick) (2-66, 0:24) 7-24					
Packers, 2, 7:26, C. Jacke 32-yard field goal (4-9, 1:26) 7-27					
Packers, 2, 1:36, C. Jacke 21-yard field goal (7-58, 2:28) 7-30					
Bronco, 3, 9:46, M. Croel 22-yard interception return (J. Elam, kick) 14-30					
Bronco, 3, 3:45, R. Bernstein 2-yard run (J. Elam, kick) (12-68, 4:28) 21-30					
Bronco, 4, 14:13, J. Elam 47-yard field goal (8-50, 3:08) 24-30					
Bronco, 4, 8:31, J. Elam 37-yard field goal (9-18, 3:20) 27-30					
Attendance: 58,943; Tickets Distributed: 59,543; Unused: 600; Time: 3:17					
Weather: Partly cloudy; Temperature: 43; Humidity: 55; Wind: SW 4 mph					

FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Broncos	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	26	15
By Rushing	5	6
By Passing	17	8
By Penalty	4	1
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	8-18-44%	3-13-23%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-3-0%	1-1-100%
TOTAL NET YARDS	388	299
Total Offensive Plays (inc. time thrown passing)	82	61
Average gain per offensive play	4.7	4.9
NET YARDS RUSHING	55	64
Total Rushing Plays	19	29
Average gain per rushing play	2.9	2.2
NET YARDS PASSING	333	235
Times thrown — yards lost attempting to pass	4-34	0-0
Gross yards passing	367	235
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INT	59-33-1	32-20-3
Average gain per pass play (inc. # thrown passing)	5.3	7.3
KICKOFFS-In End Zone-Touchbacks	6-0-0	7-1-1
PUNTS Number and Average	3-40	3-43.3
Had Blocked	0	0
FGs-PATs Had Blocked	0-0	0-0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	42	27
No. and Yards Punt Returns	2-13	1-8
No. and Yards Kickoff Returns	6-92	6-153
No. and Yards Interception Returns	3-29	1-19
PENALTIES Number and Yards	13-112	10-74
FUMBLES Number and Lost	2-1	0-0
TOUCHDOWNS	3	3
Rushing	1	2
Passing	1	1
DEFENSIVE/KICKING GAME	1-0	0-0
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	3-3	3-3
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	2-2	3-3
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	27	30
TIME OF POSSESSION	29:25	30:35

GREEN BAY PACKERS

	Net	Long			
RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Gain	TD
Bennett	12	34	2.8	11	1
Favre	5	18	3.6	17	0
Stephens	9	14	1.6	8	1
Sharpe	1	4	4.0	4	0
Wilson	1	2	2.0	2	0
Thompson	1	-8	-8.0	-8	0

PASSING	Att.	Com.	Yds.	TKD	Yds.	TD	LG	Had
Favre	32	20	235	0	0	1	66	3

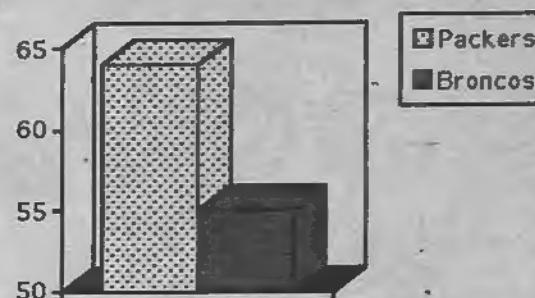
PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Sharpe	10	70	16	0
Harris	5	128	66	1
Clayton	2	21	15	0
Bennett	2	12	6	0
Brooks	1	4	4	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Simmons	1	19	19	0

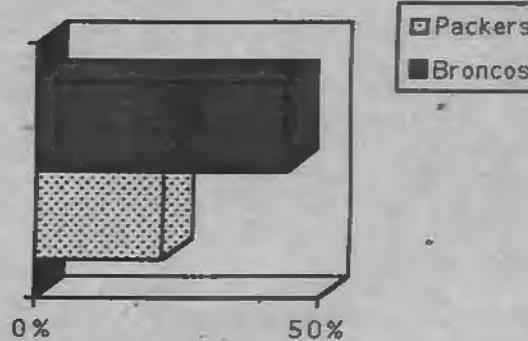
PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Wagner	3	130	43.3	1	0	56

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD
Brooks	1	0	8	8	0
Downed	1	0	0	0	0
Out of Bounds	1	0	0	0	0

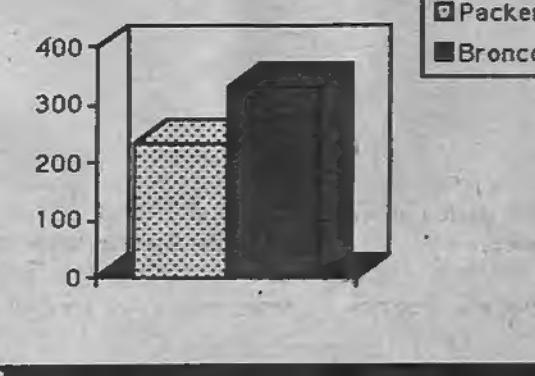
Rushing Yards



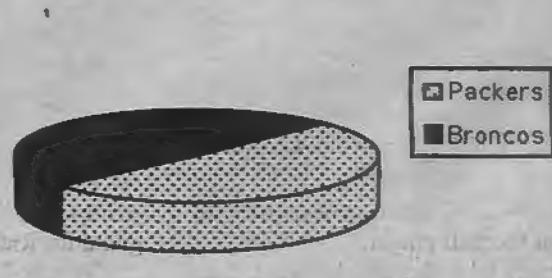
3rd-Down Conversions



Passing Yards



Time of Possession



KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD
Thompson	4	0	64	19	0
Brooks	2	0	89	68	0

DENVER BRONCOS

RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Gain	TD
Elway	5	27	5.4	11	0
Bernstein	8	26	3.3	12	1
Milbum	4	1	0.3	2	0
Delpino	2	1	0.5	1	0

PASSING

	Att.	Com.	Yds.	TKD	Yds.	TD	LG	Had
Elway	59	33	367	4	34	1	49	1

PASS RECEIVING

	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Johnson	10	148	49	1
Sharpe	7	55	16	0
Russell	5	75	29	0
Bernstein	4	31	13	0
Milbum	3	20	13	0
Marshall	2	25	13	

Commentary

What 2nd-half offense?

Reggie White sacks John Elway on the Broncos' final two plays of the game, preserving a three-point win.

But many fans are undoubtedly saying, "The Packers should have never let the game be so close."

And that line of thinking is correct.

Packer fans have to be concerned about their team's offense in the second half — only 61 total yards and two first downs. Brett Favre played well in the first half, but threw for only 53 yards and had three interceptions after intermission.

Certainly there are fans who want to talk about the play calling of Coach Mike Holmgren, who had this to say when asked where all the big plays went in the second half: "I don't know...The first half was ours but the second half was

AL PAHL



theirs. And it came down to a sack by a great, great football player.

"Anybody who thought he wasn't as good anymore — or whatever they thought about Reggie, tonight he just played so hard and made the key plays. He's a very special man."

No question about that, but let's get back to the offense, coach. Did you approach the second half with the idea of coaching the team not to lose, as opposed to coaching to win?

"On the contrary, I did not want to do that," Holmgren replied. "We talked specifically at halftime about not wanting to do that. I think if you look at the second half, we did throw the ball a fair amount. We had a couple interceptions. If we had had completions instead of interceptions at those particular points, I think we would have gotten some points and made it a whole lot easier. But again, give Denver credit."

"We didn't pull in the reins because I didn't want to do that. We did talk about that specifically."

The Broncos seemed to be much more effective at taking tight end Jackie Harris away in the second half. "They didn't change much," Holmgren said. "They played a little bit more zone. They blitzed and took more chances. They came on third down. I thought they used their blitzing very well. That was a little bit of a change from how they had played previously on film."

Long-suffering fans, you aren't alone

The head coach admitted to an emotion long-suffering Packers know a lot about: The dreaded "here we go again" feeling evoked when watching the Packers find another way to lose.

"It's difficult to block those feelings out, as hard as I try," Holmgren said. "I don't want to convey those to the team but I must admit there were a couple of points there, where I'm going, 'My goodness.'

"But we hung in there and it looks like we are going to play these close games all year. I hope I'm up to it."

The Packers were forced by injury to shuffle their offensive line Sunday: Joe Sims started at right tackle for Tootie Robbins (hip flexor); Frank Winters started for center Jim Campen (hamstring) and Doug Widell started at left guard for Rich Moran (knee).

George Teague got his first start at free safety. A change that was a combination of force and choosing was activating Muhammad Oliver in the secondary. Oliver, who joined the team from Denver as a free agent Sept. 20, played right cornerback in the team's dime package (six defensive backs). That spot had been played by defensive back/kick returner Corey Harris, who suffered a knee injury against the Cowboys.

Decathlete probably breaks even with Elway

In losing Harris, the Packers lose a talented, versatile athlete. But Oliver is no slouch — he participated in the decathlon in the 1992 U.S. Olympic trials. He is ranked eighth in the United States and 21st in the world. The 5-foot



Brett Favre was stopped just short of scoring on this play in the first quarter Sunday night. He was ruled down at the Bronco 1 yard-line after a 17-yard gallop.

— David J. Garot photo

Superstars need encouragement, too.

Reggie White — who looked (and felt, he said) like a hurdler because the Broncos were constantly trying to cut him — finished with three sacks and left the field after the game with the stadium ringing with chants of "Reggie, Reggie."

"It feels good," he said. "I felt I've been playing well over the last few weeks. Greg (defensive line Coach Blache) talked to me this week and told me not to get too discouraged. Greg actually told me, 'Hey, you're going to make some plays this week.'

"It wasn't just me. The DBs did a great job covering. Everything fit for me to make those plays. It was all within the scheme."

Oliver said the Broncos were picking on him, which he found mentally stressful, but not terribly physically difficult. "I was looking forward to the challenge," he said. "They made some plays on me but I made a lot of plays on them too. I made some pass breakups and tackles and covered my man to make Elway find a second receiver. So I feel pretty good about the way I played."

"I've been putting a lot of pressure on myself because I've been almost there but I just haven't been getting there," White said. "Thank God for guys like Greg and Coach Mike, who pull me aside and say, 'Hey, it's going to happen for you. Just be patient in there.' That

Continued on Page 6

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Quarterly

Briefly, game-by-game

A football game has four quarters and, by golly, the season also has four quarters, what with a 16-game schedule.

So, like in the business world, what did your Packers do in the first quarter? What's the bottom line of the first four games?

Unless you just came in from Turkey or other points, you know that the Green Bay finished the period with one win and three losses.

Being an optimist but also a realist, I figured a 2-2 start would be great and a 3-1 start would be tremendous. A 0-4 opening would be horrible and 1-3 gallop would be so-so.

ART DALEY



So we were so-so in the first quarter. What happened?

Game 1 — The Packers creamed the Rams, 36-6, and, really, it was no contest. Green Bay stuck the Hollywooders for a safety at the start, fell behind 3-2, then rolled with 381 yards of offense, including 138 rushing.

Game 2 — This was the Reggie White game and, frankly, there was too much emphasis on him. This was the game where the opponent discovered how to handle the Pack's offense — merely blitz the Pack's talented but inexperienced quarterback, Brett Favre. The Pack held a 17-7 lead going into the fourth quarter, but a field goal after an interception and a 40-yard TD pass on a broken play tied the score. The Eagles won, 20-17, on a field goal in the last eight seconds. The Pack defense was on the field for nearly 39 minutes while the offense gained just 159 yards.

Game 3 — This was my idea of a heartbreaker. The Packers had this win coming but they lost it on a dumb error at the end. Somebody forgot to cover a deep receiver and Jim McMahon found him to set up the winning field goal with six seconds left. This 15-13 loss was also lost on the Pack's last possession. They made 11 yards on three plays but, alas, the Packers were nixed for holding. One first down there would have won it because the Vikings were out of timeouts.

Game 4 — The Packers simply ran into a buzzsaw in Dallas. The Cowboys are Super Bowl champions and they showed it. As in the Eagle and Viking games the Packers opened with a 7-0 lead. The Packers did hold the potent Cowboys to two touchdowns but old Eddie Murray, the former Lion, kicked five field goals. When he got a 50-yarder out of his 38-year-old leg I figured the Cowboys just could do no wrong. They didn't.

Thus, the Packers scored 36, 17, 13 and 14 points — 80 in all, and allowed 6, 20, 15 and 36 points — a total of 77. By comparison, the 1992 Packers scored 64 points and allowed 80 in finishing 2-2 in the first four games.

This team is Coach Mike Holmgren's second production and something of an "experiment" because this is the NFL's first free agency season. Free agency becomes a thing of the past once the bell rings and the hitting starts but it was something that was harped on all last spring, all summer and during pre-season.

Reggie can't do it all

The Pack's biggest free agency catch, of course, was Reggie White, who without question is an excellent player. But too much has been made of his coming here and the result was that Green Bay was projected to be Central Division champion and Super Bowl contender.

As an example, a Milwaukee newspaper for weeks had a short column called "The Reggie Watch." His every move was documented and for a spell you wondered whether it was the Green Bay Packers or the Reggie White Packers. Reggie is a great football player and a wonderful humanitarian but along the way it was forgotten the Packers are playing a team game.

Despite the Dallas game, the Packer defense has been tough but the unit has been overworked. Of the 240 minutes in the first quarter, the defense has been on the field for more than half of the time, slightly over 135 minutes.

Good QBs, questionable officiating

The defense also looked at some pretty fair quarterbacks in those four games, Jim Everett of the Rams, Randall Cunningham of the Eagles, Jim McMahon of the Vikings and Troy Aikman of the Cowboys. All four have been in the playoffs and McMahon (with the Bears) and Aikman were Super Bowl winners.

Tell me, Packer nuts, is there some kind of "new" officiating going on this year? Can you imagine there wasn't one holding call in the Packer-Eagle game? The Eagles were hanging all over White. The Viking game was a farce as far as holding Packer defense people. I have a friend who watches such things and he caught at least six instances where holding could have been called on the Vikings. The Packers singled those plays out and sent the tape to the NFL office.

The Packers' big problem has been their inability to score more points. Would you

believe a total of seven more points would have won the Eagle and Viking games? Yet, the Packers scored 14 points by taking the opening kickoffs in the Viking and Cowboy games and driving down for touchdowns. The only offensive points after those two drives were two field goals — both vs. Minnesota. The Pack scored only four TDs in the last three games of the first quarter and one of those came on Robert Brooks' 95-yard kickoff return.

A year ago the Packers took a lot of pride in controlling the ball, which Holmgren said he hoped to accomplish. In the first four games last year, the Pack offense had the ball for 143 minutes, 49 seconds. This year, the offense had it for 115:25. By the same token, the defense was on the field quite a bit less in 1992.

However, the first four opponents a year ago don't match up with this year's foursome. Last year, the Pack played, in order, the Vikings, Tampa Bay, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh.

Pahl

Continued from Page 5

helps me out a whole lot; the coaches coming to me to encourage me — coming to all of us with encouragement. That's what we need. I'm considered a superstar. Well, superstars need encouragement too."

Packers head into bye 2-3

The Packers head into the bye 2-3 with this win, instead of 1-4. That difference is "tremendous," Holmgren said.

"Our Division is going to be very competitive. The win, to keep us within shouting distance of some of the teams ahead of us, was so important.

"But even more important is that when you lose close games — I'm not talking about Dallas, but the two previous games — you start to press and maybe some doubts and those types of things. They shouldn't, but it's human nature. More than 2-3 or 1-4, this instills belief back in the team; in themselves."

Said White, "This is a big win for us. These are the types of things we are going to have to do...I think this is going to take us a long way."

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Report

Wolf wants to run better

The Cowboy game was Game Four — one quarter of the 1993 season.

Packer General Manager Ron Wolf sat down with WGEE/WIXX Sports Director Mark Daniels the next day, providing, essentially, a quarterly report on the Packers. Daniels aired the interview on his WGEE talk show that evening. Key excerpts follow:

Signing Bennett not as easy as it seems

"The fact we haven't been successful on the field makes this Bennett thing more prominent, I feel, than it needs to be."

"If it was as easy as people writing in the paper and calling here have suggested, don't they think we would do it? And the answer to that is: 'Yes, we would do it.' It's certainly not that simple."

"Believe me, (Chief Financial Officer) Mike Reinfeldt is doing everything he can to resolve the issue — as everybody is here."

"We've made the statement all along that we can't afford to lose our good players and certainly he's one of our good players. But by the same token, the guy hasn't played football now for 10 months. To think he's suddenly going to walk in here and the waters are going to part and we're going to march down the victory trail is absurd."

"Bryce Paup has not played that bad of football. I can't say Bryce Paup equals Tony Bennett. But he's not a stiff. He's a good player. We've just got to take this 'Oh, poor me' attitude away and just go do what we do best and that's knock the crap out of somebody and play football."

"It's an irritant. We started camp the 15th of July. Everyday somebody asks you that question. Here it is, the Fourth of October. Give me a break. How many times can you answer that question?"

Can't explain slow offensive start

"There's no doubt that we seem to start slowly," said Wolf, referring to the season itself, not any individual game. "Last year we started out very slowly and I think it looks like we are in the same boat again. I can't explain that — other than to say I'd have to attribute that, I assume, to the system and I would think our players, by-and-large are more comfortable with the system — the guys who have been here — and we are playing a lot of guys who have been here. So I can't explain the reason we are struggling so offensively."

Basic problem: Inability to run

Asked whether Brett is a different quarterback from a year ago, Wolf replied, "I think from a won-loss standpoint, yes. But I keep seeing, reading and hearing that he's goosey in the pocket. He doesn't appear that way to me. He stands in. He gets up when these guys hit him."

"I think what's happened is people

(defenses) have hit on something (major pressure) and they are going to do it until we turn it around."

"Our basic problem has been our inability to run. I can't explain that. I wish I could. We just, for some reason, can't get it going there."

Working to correct the bad things

"We did hit a hot team yesterday. Against Philadelphia, they got hot like in the fourth quarter. I don't know where Minnesota got hot except for one pass play when someone blew a coverage."

"But hey, this is part of football. Part of football is that there is the good and the bad. Certainly we are doing everything in our power to correct the bad."

"It's a matter of hitching up our belts, I guess, and going out and doing what we do best: Come at people. That's what we have to do, both ways."

Cap makes dramatic moves unlikely

Asked whether the struggling start makes it hard to resist making dramatic moves, Wolf replied, "It certainly does. But something that will be in place next

year, that thing called the cap, tempers any wild thoughts or dreams you might have. You realize what you have to use now is the basis for your team and you just can't interfere with that: Your draft choices. So other than players to trade or cash deals, I don't know what else we can do."

"So essentially this is our team and it's up to us to get off our hands and go play football."

"I'm impressed with our team. We've got a lot of character. A lot of toughness. I'm very, very impressed with our coaching staff. There's resiliency here and we need to bounce back and prove we are capable of playing. And I think we can. We are not a bad team. If you follow us, you know our record could easily be a little bit different than it is — but it isn't. It's time for us to address this situation and get it righted."

"And I'm sure that we will. Our guys are good. We are a decent team. We know we are a good team. But just saying that isn't enough any more. It's time to display that on the field. And not display it for one quarter, two quarters or three quarters, display it for the full 60 minutes."

Injury bug bites blockers

Packer Coach Mike Holmgren has his problems too, you know.

Sure, Chicago Bulls' Coach Phil Jackson lost one player to retirement.

But three-fifths of Holmgren's starting offensive line was injured and two key reserves were down. His line was so banged up, the team practiced all week without pads. Holmgren activated a sixth-round pick he cut two months ago.

And while Jackson has until Nov. 5 to figure out life without Michael Jordan, Holmgren had one week to get his line together before the game against the Broncos, who had allowed just one touchdown in their last two games.

Starting left guard Rich Moran injured his right knee Aug. 20. He has not played since, but practiced last week and may be ready for the Oct. 24 Buccaneer game. He was listed as doubtful last week for the Bronco game and said he will have surgery at the end of the season.

Center James Campen (hamstring) and right tackle Tootie Robbins (right hip flexor strain) did not practice last week and did not start Sunday. Campen's injury may be serious.

Reserve tackles Earl Dotson (out/sprained foot) and Tunch Ilkin (questionable/hamstring) complicate the situation and did not practice last week.

Joe Sims started at right tackle. Frank Winters started for Campen, with former Bronco Doug Widell (acquired Aug. 24) playing left guard.

"We'll just keep our fingers crossed," Holmgren said Wednesday. "We're not going to go in pads this week. It will be

all in shorts. We just can't afford to have something weird happen — and it probably would."

"Something weird might happen anyway."

The man activated off the practice squad is Paul Hutchins, a 6-foot-4 1/2, 335-pounder who was waived Aug. 30 in the final cut. He played in all five pre-season games and was signed to the practice squad last month.

Linebacker Brett Collins was waived to create the roster spot for Hutchins, whom Holmgren says, has "made progress. But you go on the developmental squad and you know you're not going to play on Sunday and it's never quite the same. But he is making progress. He's worked very hard to get his weight down. We feel he's a fine athlete. He's a very big guy. If he can continue to bring his weight down, he's got great feet and there's potential there."

In another transaction, the Packers signed tackle/guard Charles Hope of Central (Ohio) State as a free agent to replace Hutchins on the practice squad. Hope, 6-3, 300, was in training camp with Miami each of the past two seasons, after signing with the Dolphins as a free agent in 1992. He was waived prior to the start of the regular season.

In other news: Attempting to get more speed on the field, George Teague was moved into the starting slot at free safety, ahead of veteran Mike Prior.

Swelling forced starting nose tackle Bill Maas to have two magnetic resonance imaging examinations for an Achilles tendon injury.

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Responsibility

Bennett rushes right up to accept, exceed

There are those who welcome responsibility, others who shrink from it.

Ebullient Edgar Lee Bennett, the Packers' sophomore fullback, happens to be one of the former, for which Head Coach Mike Holmgren and Offensive Backfield Coach Gil Haskell presumably are duly grateful.

"I like to be the one with the ball under his arm, making things happen," says Bennett, who has rewarded the coaching staff's faith in him by taking a firm grip on his position and performing at a highly acceptable level despite his relative youth.

In the process, he has affirmed the wisdom of last May's decision to waive veteran fullback Harry Sydney, a productive workman and team leader en route to 1992's 9-7 turnaround — thus clearing the way to develop the younger backs, namely Bennett and Dexter McNabb.

Success doesn't surprise Haskell

After four games, the hustling Floridian was the Packers' second-leading rusher, receiver and scorer — impressive contributions for one who was largely employed in a reserve role as a rookie last season — at a different position.

LEE REMMEL



Edgar's rapid and efficient emergence may have been a surprise to some others but not to Bennett or his position coach.

"He's done very well," said Haskell. "And he's doing the things we saw in him when we drafted him. He ran inside and caught the ball out of the backfield. So what he's done hasn't surprised us...He has a very good work ethic — he works hard."

Bennett, a tailback as a rookie, has found the switch to fullback a simple one.

"What people don't realize," he said, "is I played fullback at Florida State, and there's no difference between what I did then and what I'm doing now."

"There's just a whole lot more plays," he added with a characteristically wide smile, "and a whole lot more at stake."

There is, however, a considerable difference between his role last season and the one he now fills.

"The tailback carried the ball way more than the fullback did last season," Edgar observed. "He was the featured back. If you look back to the Bear game at Chicago, it was a great example of how much the tailback is a part of the offense."



Edgar Bennett led all rushers Sunday night with 34 yards on 12 carries — more than half of Green Bay's total rushing yards.

— David J. Garot photo

Bennett, stepping in for the injured Vince Workman, rushed 29 times for 107 yards on that occasion, becoming the first Packer rookie running back since 1979 to rush for 100 yards in a game in escorting the Green 'n' Gold to a 17-3 victory over the Bears.

Only 2 fewer carries than Stephens

A glance at the Packers' four-game individual rushing statistics this year suggests there's been a significant change in approach. Bennett, at that point, had 37 rushing attempts — only two fewer than starting tailback John Stephens.

"I think it's evened out," Edgar noted with a throaty chuckle. "I don't know why...I think, in this system, they utilize the ability of the players they have. Because I think I'm a guy who can still run the ball. Just because I'm a fullback doesn't mean I can't run the ball — because, last year, Harry (Sydney) wouldn't carry it all...He had a lot of catches though."

Bennett, who had 17 receptions as he spoke — just six fewer than team leader Sterling Sharpe, was not surprised to find himself that productive as a receiver.

"Because, in this system, the running back is going to catch the ball a lot coming out of the backfield," he said. "Good examples are Harry and Vince Workman, who both had almost 50 catches last season. So the backs are going to catch the ball in this offense."

Bennett also pointed out, "I was always second in receptions in college and I'm the only running back in Florida State history that's in the school's all-time top 10 in receptions...I'm right

ahead of Fred Biletnikoff (the former Oakland Raider who now is a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame)."

Cuts 'em like a (Ginsu) knife

The only question Haskell had coming into the season concerned Bennett's blocking potential — because of his size (at 222 pounds he is considered a small fullback), not his desire.

That concern, Gil assures, has been laid permanently to rest.

"Edgar's been a very efficient blocker," he said. "He's done a very good job of blocking. He cuts 'em — he cuts 'em down. He has very good acceleration to the block — gets on you before you know it and takes you down."

Acknowledging he enjoys the assignment, Bennett said, "You get a little kick out of it when you cut a guy completely out of the play and you look up and see the tailback dashing about 30 yards."

Takes a licking, keeps on ticking

Thus far, Edgar is happy to report,

Continued on page 19

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WHATEVER HAPPENED TO:

*J. Greene
P. 23*

"They let a lot of good players go. That was their downfall. I think Lindy regretted it. Personalities got in the way... They penalized some of the best players and released some of the best because they held out..."

-- Tiger Greene

Packer DB, 1986-90

Greene working to be a pro golfer

by Jerry Poling

More than a few Packer fans probably were surprised to see George "Tiger" Greene in Milwaukee the first week of September as the Packers were preparing to play their season opener against the Rams.

Hey, wait a minute. Greene isn't on the roster anymore, is he? Didn't Lindy Infante cut him prior to the 1991 season?

Right.

But Greene wasn't in town to play football. He was there to qualify for the Greater Milwaukee Open golf tournament, the PGA Tour stop that weekend at the Tuckaway Country Club.

While Greene didn't make the cut — he shot a 5-over-par 77 — he left Wisconsin this time knowing what he did wrong, how to improve and with a good feeling.

"I putted poorly. I three-putted about five times," Greene says. "If I had done anything with my putter I could have shot 70."

The last time he left Wisconsin he was frustrated, disappointed and disillusioned about NFL football. The Packers had cut him and he couldn't figure out why.

For Greene, switching careers to golf has been refreshing. He likes being in control of his destiny for a change, rather than having to depend upon coaches and

administrators. "I'd rather be in a situation dictated by my abilities. I don't want my future to be in the hands of somebody else," he says.

Greene, 6-foot, 190 pounds, was undrafted coming out of Western Carolina College in 1985. He played for the Falcons that season, was cut and picked up by the Packers. After being cut by the Packers, he sat out the 1991 season. He signed with the Dolphins — who, not coincidentally, perhaps, employ former Packer executive Tom Braatz — and played part of the 1992 season before separating his shoulder, being released and retiring.

Hopes to play pro golf

He has quickly put football out of his life. His new passion is golf, and he has big plans.

His immediate goal is to improve as a player and try to land a job as a club pro. He plans to play Florida mini-tour events next year, including the Space Coast Tour, the Tommy Armour Tour and, hopefully, the lucrative Nike Tour, which features many former PGA Tour players. He also hopes to play on one of two new pro golf tours for professional athletes, including the Professional Athlete Golf League (PAGL), which features George Brett as a co-commissioner. The PAGL has a television contract and offers big



TIGER GREENE

Likes golf because he controls his own destiny in this sport.

purses.

However, in order to play any of the golf tours, Greene has been forced to look for sponsors because he has run into financial trouble. The sponsors would pay his way to play the tours in exchange for a percentage of his winnings.

"I've got one guy and I need a couple more. Things are looking up," Greene says.

"I got into some bad investments and lost a lot of money. But it won't be long before I'm debt-free and I'll be out of

this situation I'm in now," Greene says.

Greene says that he put in for retirement with the NFL Players Association, meaning he qualifies for severance pay now and a pension check in the future as a result of having played more than four years in the NFL, he says.

Greene, divorced, lives in Stone Mountain, Ga., with his father, grandmother and 6-year-old son, Anthony.

He has been working on his golf game lately with teaching pro Art Craft of Noonan, Ga. Craft guides veteran PGA Tour player Tim Simpson.

While at the GTO qualifying, Greene practiced with Simpson and tour star Chip Beck, among others. He went away feeling hopeful about his endeavor.

"They told me, 'Don't give up. Keep

Continued on Page 15

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Family Spotlight

Mark Allen Brunell

Rookie quarterback

Born - Sept. 17, 1970. Los Angeles, California.

College - University of Washington, B.A. in history.

Family - Wife Stacy, daughter Caitlin, age: 16 months.

The last book I read was - "Jurassic Park"

A movie I'd recommend to my friends is - The Fugitive.

My favorite hobbies are - Golfing, fishing.

The things I like about football are - Winning and competition.

The things I like best to do with my family are - Going on vacation, especially visiting family.

I would describe my wife as - A caring mother. A loving wife. A best friend. Stacy has always supported me — even when I've thrown three or more interceptions.

I would describe myself as - Someone who has a hard time describing himself.

My favorite piece of advice to give people is - Always keep a positive attitude — even when life gets tough.

The most influential people in my life are - My mom and dad. They have always been there for me.

My greatest personal accomplishment - Having a beautiful wife and daughter.

If I could live in another time, it would be - I would love to live in the Old West so I could ride a horse everywhere and carry a gun.

Who is/was the world's greatest leader and why - I believe it was Jesus because only He was willing to give up His own life to save everyone else's.

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Mark Allen Brunell was a three-year letterman at quarterback and free safety for St. Joseph High School in Santa Maria Calif., before going on to four bowl appearances with the University of Washington and being the 118th man selected in the 1993 NFL draft.

-- David J. Garot photo

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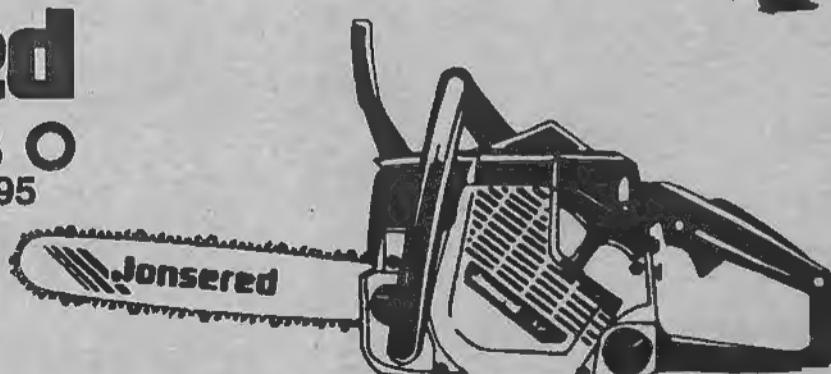


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Packers land pro singers

by Beth Zeise

Celebrities don't sing the national anthem at Packer games too often. The last big names anyone can remember at Lambeau Field are Lee Greenwood from a couple years back and Gloria Loring, who made an appearance in the late 80s.

This year the Packers snagged two well-known artists for the job in balladeer Aaron Neville and country newcomer Toby Keith. Neville sang at the Broncos' game Sunday. Keith will sneak to Green Bay between tour dates to sing at the Oct. 31 Bear game. Both performers sang bits of their songs as lead-ins to Monday Night Football earlier this season.

"I am looking forward to coming up there," Neville said in a phone interview from his home in New Orleans two weeks ago. "I've been to Wisconsin before, but never to sing at a game."

Neville's current repertoire of hits includes, "Don't Take Away My Heaven" and "Don't Fall Apart On Me Tonight" from his newest album The Grand Tour. The 52-year old-linebacker-sized singer was also half of the hugely successful "Don't Know Much" recorded with Linda Ronstadt several years ago.

Keith, on the other hand, made his big break into the country scene more recently. His debut single, "Should've Been A Cowboy," reached into the Top 10 on the Radio and Records charts and his follow up, "He Ain't Worth Missing," is currently perched at No. 5. Publicists for the former USFL player say he's excited about coming to Green Bay too.

Radio exec takes up recruiting

So why aren't more professionals singing for the Packers? Team Marketing Director Jeff Cieply, explained the Packers just don't want to get into actively recruiting talent to entertain at the games.

"If something falls into our laps — great," Cieply said. "But we feel the Anthem is something we are giving back to the fans. We think the fans do a great job singing. And it's our hope that the Anthem isn't the highlight of the game anyway."

Jeff McCarthy, vice president of Midwest Communications, which owns WGEE-AM & FM; WIXX-FM and WOZZ-FM in the Green Bay market, disagreed. "If you look in other markets, they all have professionals coming in, doing the singing," he pointed out. "And I thought, 'Well, this is a professional team — we should be able to get somebody in here.'"

So with the Packers' OK, McCarthy put out feelers to contacts at the major record companies in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles. Keith was the first to respond. Then came Neville.

"All of a sudden it started happening," McCarthy recalled. "I got a lot more phone calls, but unfortunately everyone wanted to do the earlier games. I had no takers for Dec. 26."

John Mellencamp, Meatloaf and Brian

McKnight topped the list of other big names interested in coming.

"It's tough because we only have five Green Bay dates," McCarthy explained. "And we don't pay them. The Packers handle the hotel room, the air travel is picked up by the record company and the artist does it out of the goodness of his heart."

Although Packer fans will have to settle for just two celebrities singing at home games this year, McCarthy has already set his sights on next season. "I'd like to see it happen that at every game we have a celebrity coming in," McCarthy said. "It just adds something for fans for that \$24 and \$28 ticket."

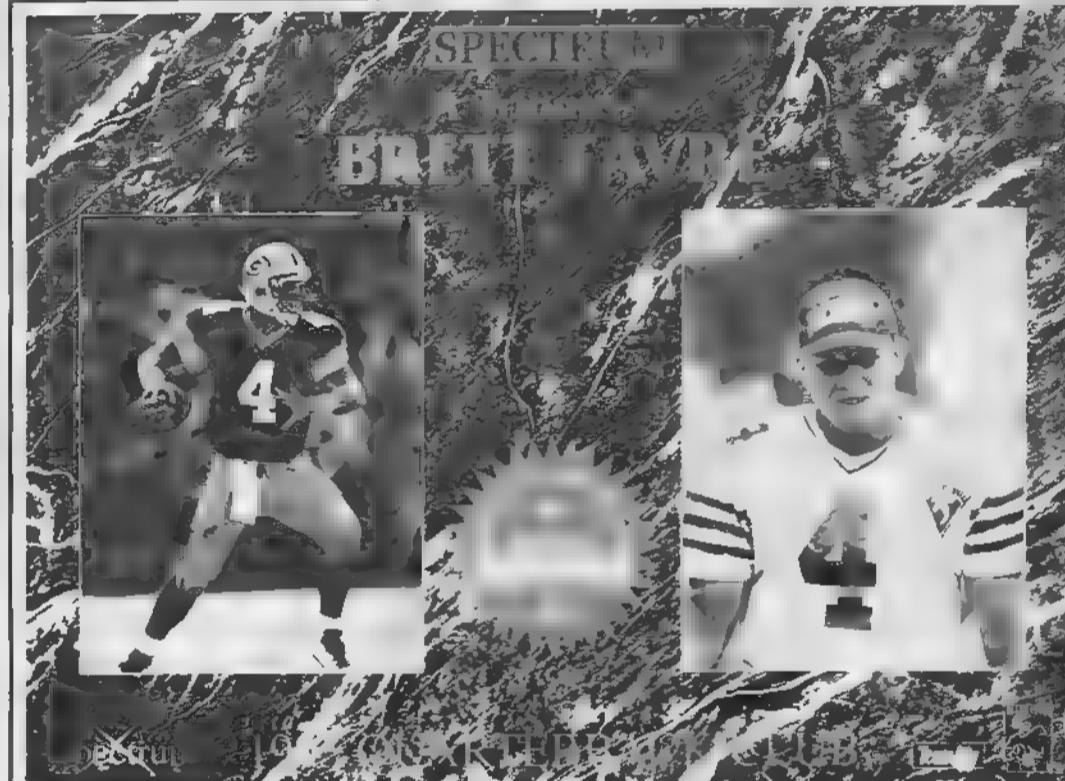
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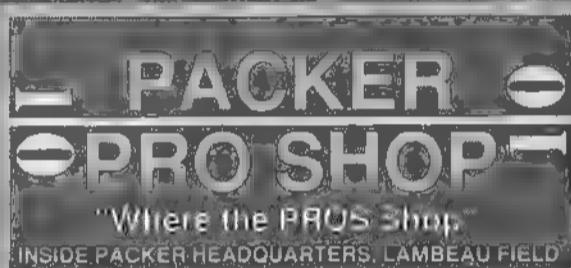
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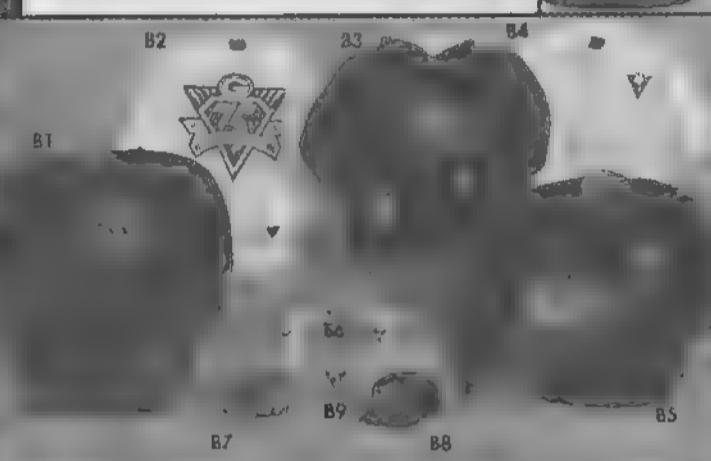
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Greene

Continued from page 9

practicing," says Greene, who added that he has been practicing — about three hours a day. "I'm not going to give up. I'm going to keep practicing and hope somebody gives me an opportunity."

Plays better left-handed

Greene carries a two handicap, and he didn't start playing golf until six years ago. Even then, he played only occasionally. As weird as it may sound, his big break came four years ago when he went with friends to an Atlanta course. No right-handed rental clubs were available so, being a switch-hitter as a young baseball player, he tried playing left-handed.

It worked.

"I shot a 96, the best I ever had. I've been going down ever since," Greene says. "I feel more confident over the ball left-handed. My swing feels better."

Green Bay holds good, bad memories

Whenever he thinks about the Packers he can't help but have mixed emotions. He feels the pain of being cut, being told he no longer was good enough. But he also remembers the good times.

"Green Bay was OK. When you were winning, the fans were great. People would be at the airport when you came home. When you were losing it wasn't so great.

"You were under the microscope all the time. It was hard. You couldn't go anywhere without people noticing. You couldn't do anything without people calling Lindy. You're kind of an outcast there because there are no blacks to start with," says Greene.

Greene's camaraderie came from playing cards or going bowling with his teammates, including close friends Ken Stills and Tim Harris.

Greene, Stills and Harris all got their first starts as Packers in the same game, Oct. 19, 1986, against Cleveland in a 17-14 win — the Packers first win after an 0-6 start.

"That's what I miss about football — the camaraderie. I don't miss the crap you have to go through with coaches and the politics. I try to steer my boy away from football. I don't want him to go through what I went through."

While Greene admits that playing in the NFL was a "dream come true" and he is thankful for the opportunity, he bristles over "being a better player than what I was given credit for. I didn't deserve to get released by Green Bay."

The year before he got cut, 1990, Greene started half of the games at safety (six when Chuck Cecil was injured), totaling 28 solo tackles and 13 assists. On special teams, he blocked two punts and returned one for a 36-yard touchdown against the Bears.

Greene felt he was having a good training camp in 1991 when he got released the week before the regular season began.

"They couldn't give me a reason. They said something about some guy who was better on special teams, and I was always on top with special teams."

"I think it was a personal conflict," says Greene, who held out in a contract dispute. "I told the coaches how I felt about some things. It was one or two coaches. I don't want to name names."

"I felt if they were honest with me and

up front I would be able to accept it better. But to cut me out of the blue and keep a guy who didn't barely play in a pre-season game, I couldn't understand it."

Infante made wrong cuts

"They let a lot of good players go. That was their downfall. I think Lindy regretted it."

"Personalities got in the way. A guy's personality off the field shouldn't dictate

what he does on the field. They penalized some of the best players and released some of the best because they held out," Greene says.

After going 10-6 and just missing the playoffs in 1989, the Packers' fortunes plummeted in 1990 and 1991, bringing on the firing of Infante.

"It was frustrating. I thought we had a chance after going 10-6 to have a good year. The coaches let their egos get in the way."

He criticized the club for getting rid

of wide receiver Perry Kemp, saying that Kemp provided good balance opposite Sterling Sharpe.

Greene also criticized the Packers for trading Vinnie Clark to Atlanta. He said the Packers' weakest position is safety.

"There are some things the fans don't have a clue about" that they should know, he says.

He added that he doesn't want people to think he's "bitter" about his years in Green Bay. "I enjoyed my time there. I hope the Packers have a good year."

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No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	How Acquired
4	Brett Favre	QB	6-2	218	23	3	Southern Mississippi	T-92 (Alt)
8	Mark Brunell	QB	6-1	208	22	R	Washington	D5a-93
9	Bryan Wagner	P	6-2	200	31	7	Cal State-Northridge	FA-92
11	Ty Detmer	QB	6-0	190	25	1	Brigham Young	D9a-92
13	Chris Jacke	K	6-0	200	27	5	Texas-El Paso	D6-89
24	Tim Hauck	S	5-11	185	26	4	Montana	PA-91 (NE)
27	Terrell Buckley	CB	5-9	174	21	2	Florida State	D1-92
29	Marcus Wilson	RB	6-1	210	25	2	Virginia	FA-92
30	Corey Harris	DB	5-11	195	23	2	Vanderbilt	W-92 (Hou)
31	George Teague	DB	6-1	187	22	R	Alabama	D1b-93
32	John Stephens	RB	6-1	215	27	6	Northwestern (La.) St.	T-93 (NE)
33	Doug Evans	DB	6-1	188	22	R	Louisiana Tech	D6a-93
34	Edgar Bennett	RB	6-0	216	24	2	Florida State	D4-92
36	LeRoy Butler	S	6-0	205	24	4	Florida State	D2-80
39	Darrell Thompson	RB	6-1	217	25	4	Minnesota	D1b-90
42	Muhammad Oliver	CB	5-11	178	24	2	Oregon	FA-93
44	Dexter McNabb	FB	6-2	245	23	2	Florida	D5a-92
45	Mike Prior	S	6-0	215	28	8	Illinois State	UFA-93 (Ind)
47	Roland Mitchell	CB	5-11	195	29	7	Texas Tech	PB-91 (Alt)
50	Johnny Holland	LB	6-3	235	28	7	Texas A&M	D2-87
52	Frank Winters	C/G	6-3	285	29	7	Western Illinois	PB-92 (KC)
53	George Koonce	LB	6-1	238	24	2	East Carolina	FA-92
54	Keo Coleman	ILB	6-1	255	23	2	Mississippi State	FA-93
56	James Willis	LB	6-2	235	20	R	Auburn	D5b-93
57	Rich Moran	G	6-3	280	31	9	San Diego State	D3-85
59	Wayne Simmons	LB	6-3	240	23	R	Clemson	D1a-93
62	Matt Brock	DE	6-6	280	27	5	Oregon	D3a-99
63	James Campen	C	6-3	280	28	7	Tulane	PA-89 (NO)
64	John Jurkovic	NT	6-2	285	25	3	Eastern Illinois	FA-9185
67	Paul Hutchins	T	6-5	335	27	R	Western Michigan	FA-93 (D-88 83)
68	Joe Sims	T/G	6-3	310	24	3	Nebraska	FA-92
71	Gilbert Brown	DE	6-2	330	22	R	Kansas	W-93 (Min)
72	Earl Dotson	T	6-4	315	22	R	Texas A&I	D3-93
73	Tootie Robbins	T	6-5	315	35	12	East Carolina	FA-93
74	Doug Widell	G	6-4	280	26	5	Boston College	T-93 (Den)
75	Ken Ruettgers	T	6-6	290	30	9	Southern California	D1-85
76	Harry Galbreath	G	6-1	275	28	6	Tennessee	UFA-93 (Mia)
77	Bill Maas	NT	6-5	282	31	10	Pittsburgh	UFA-93 (KC)
79	Tunch Ilkin	T	6-3	272	35	14	Indiana State	UFA-93 (Pitt)
80	Jackie Harris	TE	6-4	243	25	4	Northeast Louisiana	D4-90
81	Shawn Collins	WR	6-2	207	26	5	Northern Arizona	FA-93
83	Mark Clayton	WR	5-9	185	32	11	Louisville	UFA-93 (Mia)
84	Sterling Sharpe	WR	6-1	210	28	6	South Carolina	D1-88
85	Ron Lewis	WR	5-11	189	25	3	Florida State	FA-93
86	Ed West	TE	6-1	245	31	10	Auburn	FA-84
87	Robert Brooks	WR	6-0	174	22	2	South Carolina	D3-92
89	Mark Chmura	TE	6-5	242	24	1	Boston College	D6-92
90*	Tony Bennett	LB	6-2	243	25	4	Mississippi	D1a-90
92	Reggie White	DE	6-5	290	31	9	Tennessee	UFA-93 (Phil)
95	Bryce Paup	LB	6-5	247	25	4	Northern Iowa	D8-90
96	Shawn Patterson	DE	6-5	270	28	5	Arizona State	D2-88
97	Keith Taylor	LB	6-3	285	24	3	Central Oklahoma	FA-93
98	David Grant	NT	6-4	275	27	6	West Virginia	FA-93
99	Don Davey	DE	6-4	270	25	3	Wisconsin	FA-92 (D3a-91)

* Unsigned as of Oct. 10

Injured Reserve (out for season):

James Milling, WR (post concussion syndrome); Tom Neville G/C (Achilles); Brian Noble LB, (knee)

Reserve/physically unable to perform:

Aug. 23: Mark D'Onofrio, LB (groin)

Reserve/Military (out for season)

Aug. 23: Bob Kuberski, DL (Navy)

Practice squad:

17	Craig Henrich	P/K	6-3	200	22	R	Notre Dame	FA-93
26	Lionell Crawford	WR	5-10	185	23	R	Wisconsin	FA-93
40	Jason McGill	WR	5-11	185	23	R	Georgia Tech	FA-93
69	Malcom Showell	DE	6-6	275	21	1	Delaware State	FA-93
70	Charles Hope	T/G	6-3	300	23	1	Central State (OH)	FA-93

Bucs

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
4	Dan Stryzinski	P	6-1	195	28	4	Indiana
5	Michael Husted	K	6-0	190	23	R	Virginia
7	Craig Erickson	QB	6-2	205	24	2	Miami (FL)
13	Mark Vlasic	QB	6-3	205	29	5	Iowa
15	Robert Claiborne	WR	5-10	175	26	3	San Diego St.
17	Steve Deberg	QB	6-3	220	39	17	San Jose St.
20	Jerry Gray	DB	6-0	195	30	9	Texas
21	Milton Mack	CB	5-11	195	28	7	Alcorn St.
23	Marty Carter	S	6-1	200	23	3	M. Tennessee St.
24	Roger Jones	CB	5-9	175	24	3	Tennessee St.
25	Tony Covington	S	5-11	195	25	3	Virginia
27	Barney Bussey	S	6-0	210	31	8	S. Carolina St.
28	Curtis Buckley	CB	6-0	185	22	R	East Texas St.
29	Ricky Reynolds	CB	5-11	190	28	7	Washington St.
33	Mazio Royster	RB	6-1	200	22	2	USC
34	Reggie Cobb	RB	6-0	215	25	4	Tennessee
35	Martin Mayhew	CB	5-8	175	27	6	Florida St.
37	Anthony McDowell	FB	5-11	235	24	2	Texas Tech
40	Gary Anderson	RB	6-1	190	32	8	Arkansas
41	Joe King	S	6-2	195	25	3	Oklahoma St.
43	Rudy Harris	FB	6-1	255	21	R	Clemson
44	Darren Anderson	CB	5-10	180	24	1	Toledo
46	Vince Workman	RB	5-10	205	25	5	Ohio St.
47	John Lynch	S	6-2	220	21	R	Stanford
49	Demetrius DuBose	LB	6-1	240	22	R	Notre Dame
50	Reggie Burnette	LB	6-2	245	24	2	Houston
51	Broderick Thomas	LB	6-4	250	26	5	Nebraska
53	Ed Brady	LB	6-2	235	31	10	Illinois
55	Derrick Brownlow	LB	6-0	240	22	3	Illinois
56	Hardy Nickerson	LB	6-2	230	27	7	California
59	Elijah Alexander	LB	6-2	230	22	2	Kansas St.
61	Tony Mayberry	C	6-4	290	25	4	Wake Forest
62	Ian Beckles	OG	6-1	295	26	4	Indiana
64	Tim Ryan	OG	6-2	280	24	3	Notre Dame
66	Bruce Reimers	OG	6-7				

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RB 32 Stephens 39 Thompson 29 Wilson	QB 4 Favre 11 Detmer 8 Brunell	RB 34 Bennett 44 McNabb		WR 84 Shapae 81 Collins 85 Lewis	LT 76 Dill 72 Taylor	LG 66 Reimers 67 Sullivan	QB 17 DeBerg 7 Erickson 13 Vlasic
					WR 34 Cobb 40 Anderson 46 Workman 33 Royster	RB 62 Beckles 73 McHale 68 Tomberlin	FB 37 McDowell 43 Harris
							WR 80 Dawsey 15 Claiborne 88 Copeland

Tampa could be just what the Pack needs

Or it could be an ambush in the making

On the surface, the Buccaneers appear to be just what the doctor ordered for the Packers Sunday in sunny Florida.

However, if Mike Holmgren's squad believes this, they could be setting themselves up to walk the plank.

Overconfidence is the attitude several Packer teams have taken against the Bucs in the past, and it cost them dearly — Tampa has given them some spankings as a result.

One has to only go back to last year when the Bucs destroyed the Pack at Tampa in Week Two of the regular season, 31-3.

In fact, the Bucs have won six of the last 11 battles of the Bays and trail the overall series by only three, 15-12-1.

Perhaps the Lions did the Pack a favor Oct. 3 when they rode high into Tampa only to be derailed by a Buccaneer team that supposedly lacked a running game.

After all, the Bucs had a dismal 106 yards on 57 rushing attempts — cumulatively — through three games. And without the prospects of standout offensive tackle Paul Gruber ending his holdout, a winless season was being forecast by several pro football scribes.

After spotting the Lions a 10-0 lead and narrowing it to 10-3 by intermission,

the Bucs erupted for a franchise-record 21 points in the third quarter and wound up stunning the heavily-favored Lions, 27-10.

Ace running back Reggie Cobb, who rushed for 1,171 yards last year, entered the Detroit contest with only 68 on 45 carries. But he erupted for 113 on 25 trips to pace the upset.

If Green Bay allows Tampa's running game similar results, it will be tempting a fate similar to the Lions. The key to Sunday's game will be not allowing the

JIM BURGESS



Bucs a chance to control the clock.

Should the Packers be able to accomplish another one of their patented quick starts, they may be able to finish it off this time because the Bucs don't have an outstanding passing game or defense to rely on. In particular, the receiving corps was jolted by the loss of Lawrence Dawsey, who is out for the year after suffering torn knee ligaments against Detroit.



NEXT WEEK'S OPPONENT

One thing is certain: Coach Sam Wyche will have his team in a competitive frame of mind, particularly against a Packer team they have had success against in the past.

Erickson replaces Testaverde

No longer will the Packers have to defend against quarterback Vinny Testaverde, who has given them fits. He has departed to Cleveland and has been replaced by another Miami alumnus, Craig Erickson.

Wyche would have liked to groom Erickson a little longer behind 17-year vet Steve DeBerg, but changed his mind and went with the youngster, who has responded by hitting 51 of 100 through four games for 685 yards and four scores.

Cobb is the workhorse of the backfield as evidenced by the fact he has carried the ball on 70 of Tampa's 88 runs. He will be joined in the backfield by fullback Anthony McDowell and backed up by a pair of veterans, Gary Anderson and former Packer Vince Workman.

With Dawsey out, the Bucs' already young receiving corps is even younger. Unless someone is picked up, Erickson's stable of wide receivers includes Courtney Hawkins, and Miami rookies Lamar Thomas and Horrace Copeland. The Bucs return a reliable tight end in veteran Ron Hall.

Scott Dill has the unenviable task of replacing Gruber at left tackle. Charles McRae is the probable starter at right tackle. Bruce Reimers and Ian Beckles will open at guards with Tony Mayberry at

center.

Youngsters key to defensive line

Up front, the Bucs present a trio of young and upcoming linemen in rookie ends Eric Curry and Chidi Ahanotu, and nose tackle Mark Wheeler. Curry, the club's top draft choice out of Alabama, led the club with three sacks after four games.

Left outside linebacker Santana Dotson became well-acquainted with Packer quarterbacks last year, and flanked by cornerstone Broderick Thomas, gives the Bucs two outside sack threats.

Inside 'backers are Pittsburgh free agent Hardy Nickerson, who leads the club in tackles, as he did with the Steelers the past two seasons, and two-year Houston product Reggie Burnette (Green Bay's seventh pick in the 1991 draft).

Tampa's secondary was last in NFL yardage last year, but is striving for improvement. It appears to be headed in that direction with the likes of cornerbacks Ricky Reynolds and Martin Mayhew, safeties Marty Carter and Tony Covington, and nickel back Joe King. Quick development from the line will help even more.

Look for Workman on special teams

The best part about Tampa Bay's special teams is the sky-high punts of Dan Stryzinski, who carries a 42.4 yard average.

The Bucs are hoping strong-legged Virginia rookie placekicker Michael Husted helps them improve on their last-place 1992 ranking.

Gary Anderson remains Tampa's workhorse return specialist with Workman join-



OUR READERS ALWAYS WRITE

Views expressed are solely those of the letter writer. Italicized comments are solely those of the managing editor. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter. Letters should be mailed to: Letters to Packer Report, P.O. Box 9605, Green Bay, WI 54308-9605. Typewritten letters can be faxed to: (414) 465-6961. E-Mail address on Compuserve: 76226,2517.

Did Vikes pay officials?

Dear Ray,

The game is over — what a bummer — such officiating! Ridiculous — asleep on the field. Roughing the punter — left uncalled. Did Minnesota pay them guys in stripes? Sure looked like it.

Now it looks like someone better get Bennett in here real fast. He doesn't want near as much as White. So let's start building a team — start with Bennett. I want to cheer for a winning team with good referring — something the Packers never have. Hope to have better games in the future.

Sincerely,
The Willcomes
Family Farm Partnership
Spencer, WI

P.S. It's beginning to look like we need a miracle.

Play in Green Bay

Packer Report,

Let me get right to the point. I would like to see more of our home games played in Green Bay and not in Milwaukee.

First off, County Stadium is a baseball field. To view a football game there is just not enjoyable as the main seats are too far from the field.

Second, the baseball infield causes footing problems for kickers when it is wet or dry.

Third, both teams are on the same sideline. This causes the onfield coaches not to be able to see opposite end zone plays very well. Also it gives the other team a better chance to steal signals.

Fourth, when Lambeau Field is considered one of the best stadiums in football, we should show it off to the world as much as we can.

Once you've seen the Packers play in Green Bay on a crisp fall day it's just something you can't soon forget!

Go Pack!
Bryan Reeve
Waunakee, WI

To the editor,

This morning I put on my favorite Reggie WHITE Robert BROOKS BROTHERS dress shirt and Gilbert BROWN TY Detmer. I looked Sterling SHARPE. I then got in my Earl DOTSON and drove very Brett FAVRE out Ed WEST to the Sanjay BEACH. I packed my Keo COLEMAN lantern to James CAMPEN out on the Sanjay BEACH. I opened a Bryce ORANGE SODA PAUP and some TOOTIE FRUITEE Robbins gum. I took a deep Harry GalBREATH and thanked God it wasn't Frank



Twelve-year-old Bernie Williams was hit by a car and is recovering at Alfred I. DuPont Institute in Wilmington, Del., where he shares a laugh with veteran Institute volunteer John Ward. Bernie was a patient there for two years but now visits only on an outpatient basis.

WINTERS. It was a Brian NOBLE thing to do. I know I must David GRANT myself Rich MORan more free time. Lately, I had been George faTEAGUED. Being a Packer fan is no easy thore.

In fact, Mike PRIOR to reaching the Sanjay BEACH, I stopped at Doug BOB EVANS restaurant. I ordered a cup of JOE Sims and then a Brett TOM COLLINS. That tasted so good I ordered a Shawn TOM COLLINS. I also had eggs with Johnny HOLLANDaisse sauce. When the BILL Maas came, I told the waitress that I may not be a Ken RUETTTERS University graduate, Leroy BUTler the BILL Maas did not add up. I didn't want to be John JURKoviced around. I put on my Chris JACKET and left. I may not be Marcus WOODROW WILSON or DON DAVEY JONES or TONY ORLANDO Bennett, and I may not be the president of DEXTER McNabb SHOES or the owner of Jackie HARRIS TEETER food stores, but I am no Bryan WagNERD. I just got the Tim HAUCK out of there.

I finally got to the Sanjay BEACH. I combed my Corey HARRIS, opened an ice cold Matt LIENENKUGAL BROCK, and got some terrific Shawn PATTERSON.

I apologize for not including all of the remaining 1993 Packers in my story, especially Tonch.

Joel Wethall
Tampa, FL

(formerly Lake Mills, WI)
I know whatcha mean — I hate getting John JURKoviced around.

— Ed.

If there's any way...
Packer Report,

I see if there's any way for the Packers to blow a game they'll do it. The Viking game today was a prime example. The

missed assignments and the blown coverage, even that I can dismiss, but I listened to the Vikings after the game laughing about the Packer defender making the statement, oh he can't throw the ball that far. Well I guess old Jim showed everyone he could, and we lose a sure win.

I guess we had better start playing 60 minutes, or it's going to be a long season for the world's best fans, the Packer fans.

Jack "Big Z" Zurolenski
Ellsworth, WI

What a change?

Dear PR,

So Wolf and Holmgren want a Packer uniform change. How about we change the annual no-show for the playoffs that the Packers have had for the past 21 years (non-strike seasons). W & H have only been a member of the Packers for 1½ years but they are going to change something that fans such as myself have loved for the past 25 years, the Packer colors. Holmgren (which I do like as a coach) needs to remember that the city by the bay is now Green Bay not San Fran. It's very kind of them to allow us to keep the dark green part of the jersey instead of putting in San Fran red along with the metallic gold. Packer fans have been able to see who is going to be picked up in the players pool just by seeing who San Fran cuts from their roster. Let's be Green Bay not a San Fran stepsister. The most recognized uniform in the world will be a thing of the past, thank you to people that have gone into fashion designing instead of trying to make a winning football team out of a perennial mediocre team at best.

Very disappointed,
Alan Emmons
Bryant, AR

A little tact around the little ones, Mr. Sharpe

Dear Packer Report,

On July 20th I traveled from Minnesota to Chippewa Falls, Wis., picked up my father and headed to Green Bay to spend the day hanging around our much beloved Packers.

That was one of the most wonderful days of my life!

One of the highlights was a chance to speak one-on-one with Brett Favre and meet Mike Holmgren. We also got to speak to all the other players and get some autographs. (The players sure seem to appreciate all the fan support!)

The only dark spot of the day was when I saw a little girl (around seven years old) go dashing up to Sterling Sharpe — her eyes were as big as saucers as she looked upon her hero with excitement and then when asking for his autograph he rudely replied, "You know the answer to that question!!" It seems as though Mr. Sharpe wears two helmets — (pardon the pun) — one in street clothes the other in uniform! Learn some tact Sterling or maybe just keep your uniform on — you seem to be quite a gentleman then! Keep in mind Sterling, without your fans you're a nobody!!

Anyway, back to the good stuff, thanks team for all the great memories, see you in the Super Bowl!

Sincerely,
Bryan K. Bartz
Burnsville, MN

Eagles outcoached Pack

Dear Packer Report,

I don't think just because you complain or have a negative thing to say about the Pack, makes you a fair weather fan. They say tradition and pride is what a Packer fan is all about. Well I think that is why a true competitor and Packer fan will complain when they are playing poor.

I feel to be a great football team you have to control the line of scrimmage on both sides. I think in the Philly game everybody knows Philly did that on both sides most of the game.

I think we were badly out-coached too. They ended up making the adjustments needed to allow their team to be in position to win the game.

I think Holmgren's inexperience as a head coach really showed up in that game. But he will learn in time to maintain control and get the team going in the right directions by making adjustments needed to win the game.

What I really liked about that game was the improvement of Buckley showing his ability to hang on to the ball and ever make a tackle. If he keeps doing that, he will be a great player. If not, he will turn out to be a bust.

Show me.
Packer Backer
Tom Morris
Redondo, CA

More letters

Yep, that'd work, too

Dear Packer Report,

Do we have a great team or what?! I had to write and give you a sample of how great your fans are in Waterloo, Iowa.

If we cannot attend a game and it's not on national TV, we go to our local Ground Round which satellites the games in.

When our group arrived at the Ground Round to watch the Pack/Patriots, to our dismay the game could not be found. Even after numerous calls across the country. It was getting close to halftime, when the suggestion to listen to the game on the radio came up. So everyone piled in their cars and drove to the country to a local golf course parking lot and cranked the radios.

We felt if we couldn't see the game the next best thing is all of us hear it — what fun we had!

Best of luck to our Green Bay Packers
Denny and Cindy Hinds
Waterloo, IA

Lombardi, Starr and the dynasty

I've been an avid Green Bay Packer fan since the 1960s. There is no greater privilege as a fan then to root for a team with the Packers' great tradition. From Curly Lambeau's teams that won six NFL Championships to Vince Lombardi's five NFL title teams. That makes a total of 11 NFL Championships — more than ANY other NFL franchise!

Thank you,
Joe Laurino
Union, NJ

game here or a 100-yard game there. I see it as a guy helping the team by running, catching and blocking — a complete player. That's what you've got to be to play in the NFL. You've got to be an athlete — that's the way I look at it. You can't just be one-dimensional."

The son of a coach (his father, Edgar Bennett, Jr., was the basketball coach at No. 34's Lee High School in Jacksonville, FL.), Edgar III is quick to acknowledge that he frequently gets football "advice" from the head of the house.

"All the time," he confirmed with a lusty chuckle. "He knows what he's talking about. Sometimes I have to tell him a few things about the way I see it."

"After games, I have to talk to my mom first when I call home because I know when he gets on the phone, we're going to replay the whole game."

"He played college football — I don't know where — and he told me had a few tryouts from professional teams."

Establishes Edgar Bennett Foundation

Off the field, Bennett is involved in a significant personal project — establishing the Edgar Bennett Foundation, designed to assist on three fronts — donate a scholarship to his alma mater, Florida State and help Big Brothers/Big Sisters and underprivileged youth to learn a vocation or trade.

"My attorney is working on it right now," Edgar informed, explaining, "It isn't complete yet. They're still working on it."

In order to qualify for the scholarship, he noted, "You don't necessarily have to be an athlete. It can be anybody that wants to learn."

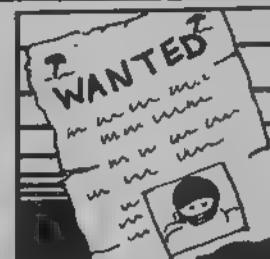
I remember Lombardi and Starr teaming up and becoming (in my opinion) the greatest coach and quarterback combination in pro football history. I like to point out that Bart Starr has the record for winning five NFL Championships. All you hear is that Terry Bradshaw and Joe Montana have won four Super Bowls.

Doesn't the media around the country realize that football existed well before the Super Bowl was originated?

Starr won two Super Bowls in 1966 and 1967, and would have won three more in 1961, 62, and 65 if the NFL title was called the Super Bowl. The NFL title and Super Bowl are one in the same.

Lombardi was, and still is, the greatest NFL Coach of all time. His record speaks for itself, FIVE NFL titles and TWO Super Bowls in nine years at Green Bay. That is — without a doubt — the greatest pro football dynasty of all time! Also, if Lombardi had wild cards back in the 60s, then he probably would have won a couple more championships. Case in point; 1963 when his record was 11-2-1 and his team finished in second place.

On this, the 75th Anniversary season for the Packers, I'd like to wish Coach Mike Holmgren and the team a great season. Keep adding to the great tradition our Packers have, and make this fan as ecstatic as ever.



If there is a Packer item you've got to get your hands on; if you want to find a place to watch your favorites or if you can help out fellow diehards, your request or offer will be printed free of charge on a space-available basis.

All ads must be mailed to: Want Ads, Packer Report, P.O. Box 9605, Green Bay, WI 54308-9605.

WANTED: Place to watch GBP games in Seattle area. Phone Virg (206) 852-3441.

WANTED: Place to watch GBP games in Central Ohio. Want to form a once-a-month Packer roundtable and plan activities. Bob Thomas; 160 Curly Smart Circle; Delaware OH 43015. Phone (614) 363-2438.

During his leisure, Bennett can invariably be found watching movies — at home or in the theater.

"I have over a hundred movies now," he said. "I've added to that collection. I've got about 40 here in Green Bay. I have a big entertainment center at home in Jacksonville. It's like three levels and, top to bottom, it's filled with movies. My mom will come over to my house, sit in a chair and just watch movies."

His favorites?

"Scarface" is No. 1," Edgar rejoined without hesitation. "I like the violence...That was a great movie."

"I like 'Cape Fear,' too. That's an excellent movie...The Untouchables"...I like a lot of gangster movies, for some reason. I like 'Pretty Woman' — that was pretty good — and "Ghost." That movie will bring tears to your eyes."

Bennett's fondness for films has begun to rub off on his fellow fullback and inseparable companion, Dexter McNabb.

"He comes over to my house to watch movies or I go over to his house," Edgar confided. "He's going to start his little movie collection."

Though they play the same position, one which saw them compete for starting status throughout training camp and the

WANTED: Place to watch GBP games in Fort Lauderdale area. Phone Al (708) 834-6286.

WANTED: Nov. 26, 1993 "NFL Today" interview with Chuck Cecil. Also looking for tapes of the 1993 Cardinal games; anything else on Chuck Cecil. Will pay reasonable prices. Susie Cain; 1606A South 9th ST; Sheboygan WI 53081.

pre-season, Bennett assures, "It doesn't affect our friendship. We both have our goals. One of our goals is to be in the backfield together. Unfortunately, that's not the case right now."

Personally, Edgar is just as happy at fullback as he was at tailback.

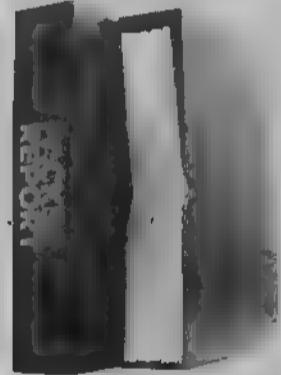
"For me, it's equal," he said. "I just like to get the ball. I just like to have it — I don't care how they get it to me."

"I like to be the one with the ball under his arm...making things happen."

The one with the biggest responsibility.

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#5P — Packers/NFL Stadium Blankets — Pro's choice 45" x 72", 60% virgin wool, 40% acrylic. Team Helmet logo on green blanket/red, white, blue NFL carrying case \$39.95

#6P — Sports Writer Pad & Pen Set — Show your team spirit with each message you write! Packers colors. \$3.49

#7P — Team Doormats — Welcome your friends in style! Permanently dyed, non-skid waffle backing, hose clean. Also use as a wall hanging. Packers colors on grey background/black trim. (Personalized Add \$6) \$17.95

#8P — Packers Ultra Sports Bottle — The exciting two part bottle that serves you in many ways. Store your keys, gum or anything else in the same container you use for your favorite drink. Heavy duty construction in team colors. \$3.99

#13P —

#14P —

#19P — Team Helmet Phones — Made from actual playing helmets. Exactly like those used on draft day TV. \$229.95

#20P — Directors Chairs — Machine washable canvas, solid hardwood construction. Use indoors or out. (Personalized Add \$6) \$49.99

#24P —

#26P —

#27P —

#28P — Team Quilt — 68" x 96" Twin \$249.00

#29P — Team Quilt — 81" x 98" Full \$259.99

#30P — Team Quilt — 90" x 102" Queen \$289.00

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Winning dreams come true when you're wrapped-up in Packer Green and Gold. 50/50 polyester/cotton.

#32P — 16 oz. Stein \$3.95

#33P — 10 oz. Mug \$2.95

Double insulation keeps drinks at the perfect temperature. Made with high impact plastic to resist breakage. Top rack dishwasher safe! Packers helmet logo/Packers logo on each side. White base with team colors.

#34P —

#36P —

#38P —

#39P — Packers Gridiron Switch Plate — Made of old world pewter, bright enamel colors enhance football field detail. Screws included. Fits all standard size switches. \$12.95

#40P — Green Bay Packers Sunglasses — When you wear these sunglasses there's no question where you stand. Produced utilizing ContraVision™, an amazing new see-through technology. \$7.95

#41P — Large Party Coolers — The ultimate party cooler holds 72 beverage cans with room enough for plenty of ice. Rugged fiber core construction, hinged clear plastic lid. Height 30", 18 1/4" in diameter. \$119.95

#43P — Sport Cooler — The cooler is 11 1/2" diameter and 13 1/2" high. All metal with galvanized interior construction so the unit will not rust. Will hold approximately 24 12 oz. cans. \$29.95

#44P — Green Bay Packers Grill — The grill has a removable internal charcoal bucket. Hot air passes up through the bucket and cool air moves along the side of the bucket and out the top vent holes, keeping the exterior surface insulated from the heat. Consequently, the decorated surface will not discolor or burn off. All metal construction 11 1/2" diameter and 10 1/2" high. Convenient carrying handle. \$24.95

#45P — Black ceramic mug 11 oz. \$12.49

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#47P — Cocktail glass 11 oz. \$9.99

Three different styles. Black ceramic mug 11 oz., colonial tankard 15 oz. and cocktail glass 11 oz. Each style includes a fine pewter emblem of the Green Bay Packers helmet and team name, hand painted enamel team colors enhance fine pewter emblem.

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(Central Time)

Week 1

Sunday, Sept. 5

N.Y. Giants 26, Bears 20
Detroit 30, Atlanta 13
Cleveland 27, Cincinnati 14
PACKERS 36, L.A. Rams 6
Denver 26, N.Y. Jets 20
Kansas City 27, Tampa Bay 3
Miami 24, Indianapolis 20
Buffalo 38, New England 14
Philadelphia 23, Phoenix 17
San Francisco 24, Pittsburgh 13
L.A. Raiders 24, Minnesota 7
San Diego 18, Seattle 12
New Orleans 33, Houston 21
Monday, Sept. 6

Washington 35, Dallas 16
Week 2

Sunday, Sept. 12
Minnesota 10, Chicago 7
N.Y. Giants 27, Tampa Bay 7
Detroit 19, New England 16, OT
Indianapolis 9, Cincinnati 6
Houston 30, Kansas City 0
New Orleans 34, Atlanta 31
Philadelphia 20, PACKERS 17
Phoenix 17, Washington 10
N.Y. Jets 24, Miami 14
L.A. Rams 27, Pittsburgh 0
Denver 34, San Diego 17
Buffalo 13, Dallas 10
L.A. Raiders 17, Seattle 13
Monday, Sept. 13

Cleveland 23, San Francisco 13

BYE: AFC East except New England, NFC Central except Detroit

Sunday, Sept. 19

Pittsburgh 34, Cincinnati 7
New Orleans 14, Detroit 3
N.Y. Giants 20, L.A. Rams 10
Seattle 17, New England 14
Philadelphia 34, Washington 31
San Francisco 37, Atlanta 30
Cleveland 19, L.A. Raiders 16
San Diego 18, Houston 17
Dallas 17, Phoenix 10
Monday, Sept. 20

Kansas City 15, Denver 7

Week 4

Sunday, Sept. 26
BYE: AFC West except Seattle, NFC East except Phoenix
Minnesota 15, **PACKERS 13**
Indianapolis 23, Cleveland 10
L.A. Rams 28, Houston 13
Miami 22, Buffalo 13
Chicago 47, Tampa Bay 17
Detroit 26, Phoenix 20
New Orleans 16, San Francisco 13
Seattle 19, Cincinnati 10
N.Y. Jets 45, New England 7
Monday, Sept. 27

Pittsburgh 45, Atlanta 17

Week 5

Sunday, Oct. 3
BYE: AFC Central, New England, Phoenix
Dallas 36, **PACKERS 14**
Chicago 6, Atlanta 0
Tampa Bay 27, Detroit 10
Kansas City 24, L.A. Raiders 9
Denver 35, Indianapolis 13
San Francisco 38, Minnesota 19
New Orleans 37, L.A. Rams 6
Philadelphia 35, N.Y. Jets 30
Seattle 31, San Diego 14
Buffalo 17, N.Y. Giants 14
Monday, Oct. 4

Miami 17, Washington 10

Week 6

Sunday, Oct. 10
BYE: NFC West, Detroit, Seattle
PACKERS 30, Denver 27
Chicago 17, Philadelphia 6
Kansas City 17, Cincinnati 15
Dallas 27, Indianapolis 3
Miami 24, Cleveland 14
N.Y. Giants 41, Washington 7
Minnesota 15, Tampa Bay 0
Pittsburgh 16, San Diego 3
New England 23, Phoenix 21
L.A. Raiders 24, N.Y. Jets 20
Monday, Oct. 11

Houston at Buffalo 8 p.m.

Week 7

Thursday, Oct. 14
BYE: AFC East except New England, NFC Central except Detroit

L.A. Rams at Atlanta 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 17
Cleveland at Cincinnati Noon
Houston at New England Noon
New Orleans at Pittsburgh Noon
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants Noon
Seattle at Detroit Noon
Kansas City at San Diego 3 p.m.
San Francisco at Dallas 3 p.m.
Washington at Phoenix 3 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 18
L.A. Raiders at Denver 8 p.m.

Week 8

Sunday, Oct. 24
BYE: AFC West except Seattle, NFC East except Phoenix
Atlanta at New Orleans Noon
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets Noon
Cincinnati at Houston Noon
Green Bay at Tampa Bay Noon
Pittsburgh at Cleveland Noon
Detroit at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
New England at Seattle 3 p.m.
Phoenix at San Francisco 3 p.m.
Indianapolis at Miami 6:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 25

Minnesota at Bears 8 p.m.

Week 9

Sunday, Oct. 31
BYE: AFC Central
Bears at Green Bay Noon
Dallas at Philadelphia Noon
Kansas City at Miami Noon
New England at Indianapolis Noon
N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants Noon
Tampa Bay at Atlanta Noon
San Diego at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
Seattle at Denver 3 p.m.
L.A. Rams at San Francisco 3 p.m.
New Orleans at Phoenix 3 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 1

Washington at Buffalo 8 p.m.

Week 10

Sunday, Nov. 7
BYE: NFC West
L.A. Raiders at Bears 3 p.m.
Buffalo at New England Noon
Denver at Cleveland Noon
N.Y. Giants at Dallas Noon
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati Noon

San Diego at Minnesota Noon
Seattle at Houston Noon
Tampa Bay at Detroit Noon
Miami at N.Y. Jets 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at Phoenix 3 p.m.
Indianapolis at Washington 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 8

Green Bay at Kansas City 8 p.m.

Week 11

Sunday, Nov. 14
BYE: Detroit, New England
Bears at San Diego 7 p.m.
Green Bay at New Orleans Noon
Houston at Cincinnati Noon
Miami at Philadelphia Noon
Phoenix at Dallas Noon
San Francisco at Tampa Bay Noon
Washington at N.Y. Giants Noon
Atlanta at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
Cleveland at Seattle 3 p.m.
Kansas City at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
Minnesota at Denver 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis 3 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 15

Buffalo at Pittsburgh 8 p.m.

Week 12

Sunday, Nov. 21
BYE: Phoenix, Seattle
Bears at Kansas City Noon
Cincinnati at N.Y. Jets Noon
Dallas at Atlanta Noon
Detroit vs. Green Bay at Milw. Noon
Houston at Cleveland Noon
Indianapolis at Buffalo Noon
New England at Miami Noon
L.A. Raiders at San Diego 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Denver 3 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 22

New Orleans at San Francisco 8 p.m.

Week 13

Thursday, Nov. 25
Bears at Detroit 11:30 a.m.
Miami at Dallas 3 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 28

Cleveland at Atlanta Noon

L.A. Raiders at Cincinnati Noon

New Orleans at Minnesota Noon

N.Y. Jets at New England Noon
Philadelphia at Washington Noon
Tampa Bay at Green Bay Noon
Buffalo at Kansas City 3 p.m.
Denver at Seattle 3 p.m.
Phoenix at N.Y. Giants 3 p.m.
San Francisco at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Houston 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 29

San Diego at Indianapolis 8 p.m.

Week 14

Sunday, Dec. 5
Green Bay at Bears Noon
Atlanta at Houston Noon
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets Noon
L.A. Raiders at Buffalo Noon
Minnesota at Detroit Noon
New England at Pittsburgh Noon
New Orleans at Cleveland Noon
Washington at Tampa Bay Noon
Denver at San Diego 3 p.m.
Kansas City at Seattle 3 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Phoenix 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Miami 3 p.m.
Cincinnati at San Francisco 7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 6

Philadelphia at Dallas 8 p.m.

Week 15

Saturday, Dec. 11
N.Y. Jets at Washington 11:30 a.m.
San Francisco at Atlanta 3 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 12

Bears at Tampa Bay Noon

Buffalo at Philadelphia Noon

Cincinnati at New England Noon

Cleveland at Houston Noon

Indianapolis at N.Y. Giants Noon

L.A. Rams at New Orleans Noon

Dallas at Minnesota 3 p.m.

Detroit at Phoenix 3 p.m.

Kansas City at Denver 3 p.m.

Seattle at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.

Green Bay at San Diego 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 13

Pittsburgh at Miami 8 p.m.

Week 16

Saturday, Dec. 18
Denver at Bears 11:30 a.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Jets 3 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 3

Philadelphia at San Francisco 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 19

Atlanta at Washington Noon

Buffalo at Miami Noon

Houston at Pittsburgh Noon

L.A. Rams at Cincinnati Noon

Minnesota vs. Green Bay at Milw. Noon

New England at Cleveland Noon

Phoenix at Seattle 3 p.m.

San Diego at Kansas City 3 p.m.

San Francisco at Detroit 3 p.m.

Tampa Bay at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.

Philadelphia at Indianapolis 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 20

N.Y. Giants at New Orleans 8 p.m.

Week 17

Saturday, Dec. 25

Houston at San Francisco 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 26

Detroit at Bears Noon

Atlanta at Cincinnati Noon

Indianapolis at New England Noon

L.A. Raiders at Green Bay Noon

New Orleans at Philadelphia Noon

N.Y. Jets at Buffalo Noon

Cleveland at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.

N.Y. Giants vs. Phoenix 3 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Seattle 3 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Denver 3 p.m.

Washington at Dallas 3 p.m.

Kansas City at Minnesota 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 27

Miami at San Diego 8 p.m.

Week 18

Friday, Dec. 31

Minnesota at Washington 2 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 2

Bears at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.

Buffalo at Indianapolis Noon

Cleveland at Pittsburgh Noon

Dallas at N.Y. Giants Noon

Green Bay at Detroit Noon

Miami at New England Noon

Phoenix at Atlanta Noon

Seattle at Kansas City Noon

Cincinnati at New Orleans 3 p.m.

Denver at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.

San Diego at Tampa Bay 3 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at Houston 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 3

Philadelphia at San Francisco 8 p.m.

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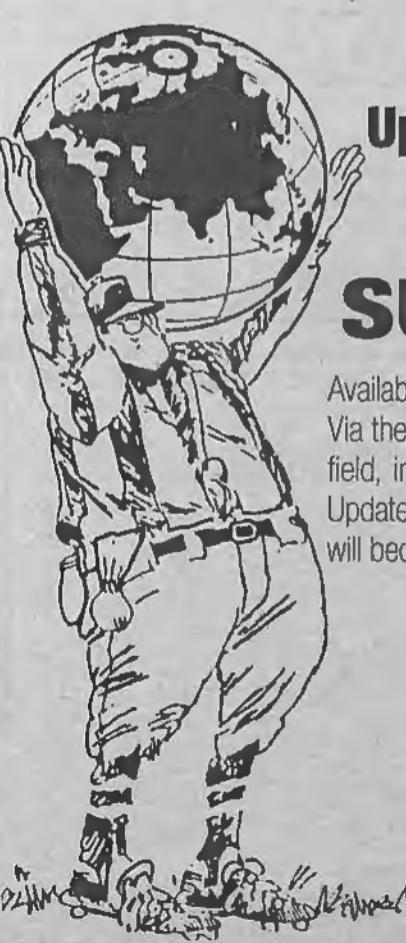
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CENTRAL ISSUES

McMahon returns to Soldier Field

by John Delcos



Chicago Bears

If it only seems like it was just a couple of weeks ago that the Bears played in Minnesota, it's because it was. What a scheduling bust this turned out to be. The Bears and Vikings have traditionally gone head-to-head for the NFC Central Division title, and for both games to be played before November is wrong. These teams need a December game. However, not having one puts this game into almost a must-win category for the Bears. They simply can't afford to be swept by the Vikings if they are to entertain any playoff aspirations.

INJURIES: None reported.

SCOUTING REPORT: Minnesota (Mon). In all probability, this should be another close game. The storyline, of course, will be Jim McMahon's return to Soldier Field. Neither team can afford to get emotionally involved with that plot, but instead, each must concentrate on fundamental football -- both need to establish the running game early and stay away from playing catch-up. ... After opening the season with two losses, the Bears now find themselves on the cutting edge of the race because Minnesota and Detroit have stumbled.

SCHEDULE: NY Giants (L, 26-20), at Minnesota (L, 10-7), Tampa Bay (W, 47-17), Atlanta (W, 6-0), at Philadelphia, Minnesota (Mon), at Green Bay, LA Raiders, at San Diego, at Kansas City, at Detroit (Thurs), Green Bay, at Tampa Bay, Denver (Sat), Detroit, at LA Rams.



Detroit Lions

The Lions didn't play last week, but that didn't make things any easier for coach Wayne Fontes, who still continues to get heat for his inability to name a starting quarterback. First it was Rodney Peete, then when he was injured Andre Ware took over, then when Peete was ready to return, he decided, well, who really knows?

What Fontes seems to forget, that his best choice might very well be Erik Kramer. Don't think so? Well, consider, when the Lions surprised the NFC two years ago, it was a hot Kramer who took over for Peete to lead the team in the second half. A variable to the equation is that all three quarterbacks will become free agents after the season.

If Fontes isn't fired -- if the Lions fold, that is a distinct possibility -- then it's likely to assume the free-agent market will make the decision for Fontes.

INJURIES: S Bennie Blades (ankle), OT Lomas Thomas (ankle), WR Brett Perriman (knee).

SCOUTING REPORT: At LA Rams. It was initially thought the Rams would falter this year, but winning in the Astrodome has changed the perception of the team. ... QB Jim Everett-to-Henry Ellard is still a dangerous combination, and the Lions can be vulnerable to the big play. ... As always, the Lions' gameplan revolves around establishing RB Barry Sanders. This might be even more important as Fontes continues to have an unsettled quarterback situation.

SCHEDULE: Atlanta (W, 30-13), at New England (W, 19-16 OT), at New Orleans (L, 14-3), Phoenix (W, 26-20), at Tampa Bay (L, 27-10), Seattle, at LA Rams, at Minnesota, Tampa Bay, Green Bay (at Mil), Chicago (Thurs), Minnesota, at Phoenix, San Francisco, at Chicago, Green Bay.



Tampa Bay Buccaneers

The Bucs gave the game ball from the Detroit win to owner Hugh Culverhouse, who is suffering with lung cancer and

talked with the team before the game.

"It's amazing when you put your team in one of those celebrating moments who they think of first," said coach Sam Wyche. "It shows a great deal of respect for somebody who takes a lot of heat during the season." ... On the Bucs' first play in the Detroit game, they lost WR Lawrence Dawsey for probably most of the season with a twisted left knee. "I got a couple of ligaments twisted," said Dawsey, who has 15 receptions for 203 yards. ... Michael Husted's 52-yard field goal against Detroit was the Bucs' longest since Steve Christie's 54-yarder in 1990 against the Lions. ... A shoulder injury snapped CB Ricky Reynolds' streak of 50 consecutive starts. ... Former Bucs Darrell Fullington and Alonzo Highsmith were kicked off the sidelines during the Detroit game because they didn't have the proper credentials. ... TE Ron Hall has 23 receptions for 236 yards in his last five games against the Lions.

INJURIES: RB Gary Anderson (thigh), RB Anthony McDowell (shoulder), CB Milton Mack (groin).

SCOUTING REPORT: Green Bay. See Packers.

SCHEDULE: Kansas City (L, 27-3), at NY Giants (L, 27-7), at Chicago (L, 47-17), Detroit (W, 27-10), at Minnesota, Green Bay, at Atlanta, at Detroit, San Francisco, Minnesota, at Green Bay, Washington, Chicago, at LA Raiders, at Denver, San Diego.



Minnesota Vikings

The Vikings gave tryouts to three running backs -- Curvin Richards, Ivory Lee Brown and Chuckie Dukes -- which is an obvious statement of their concern in that area.

"We're just sort of looking to see who's out there and make some evaluations," said club president Roger Headrick. The Vikings are ranked 21st in rushing with a paltry 84.5 yards a game, not nearly enough to win. ... After four games, DE Chris Doleman had only one sack, and the Vikings had nine as a team, through four games, which is also a source of concern. ... Coach Dennis Green continues to bury RB Roger Craig after a fumble in the second game. ... First-round RB Robert Smith is seeing his time on special teams, which is also a surprise. ... The Packers and 49ers use the same offenses. The Vikings allowed 13 points to the Packers, but were torched for 38 by the 49ers. That says a lot, about all three teams.

SCHEDULE: at LA Raiders (L, 24-7), Chicago (W, 10-7), Green Bay (W, 15-13), at San Francisco (L, 38-19), Tampa Bay, at Chicago (Mon), Detroit, San Diego, at Denver, at Tampa Bay, New Orleans, at Detroit, Dallas, Green Bay (at Mil), Kansas City, at Washington.

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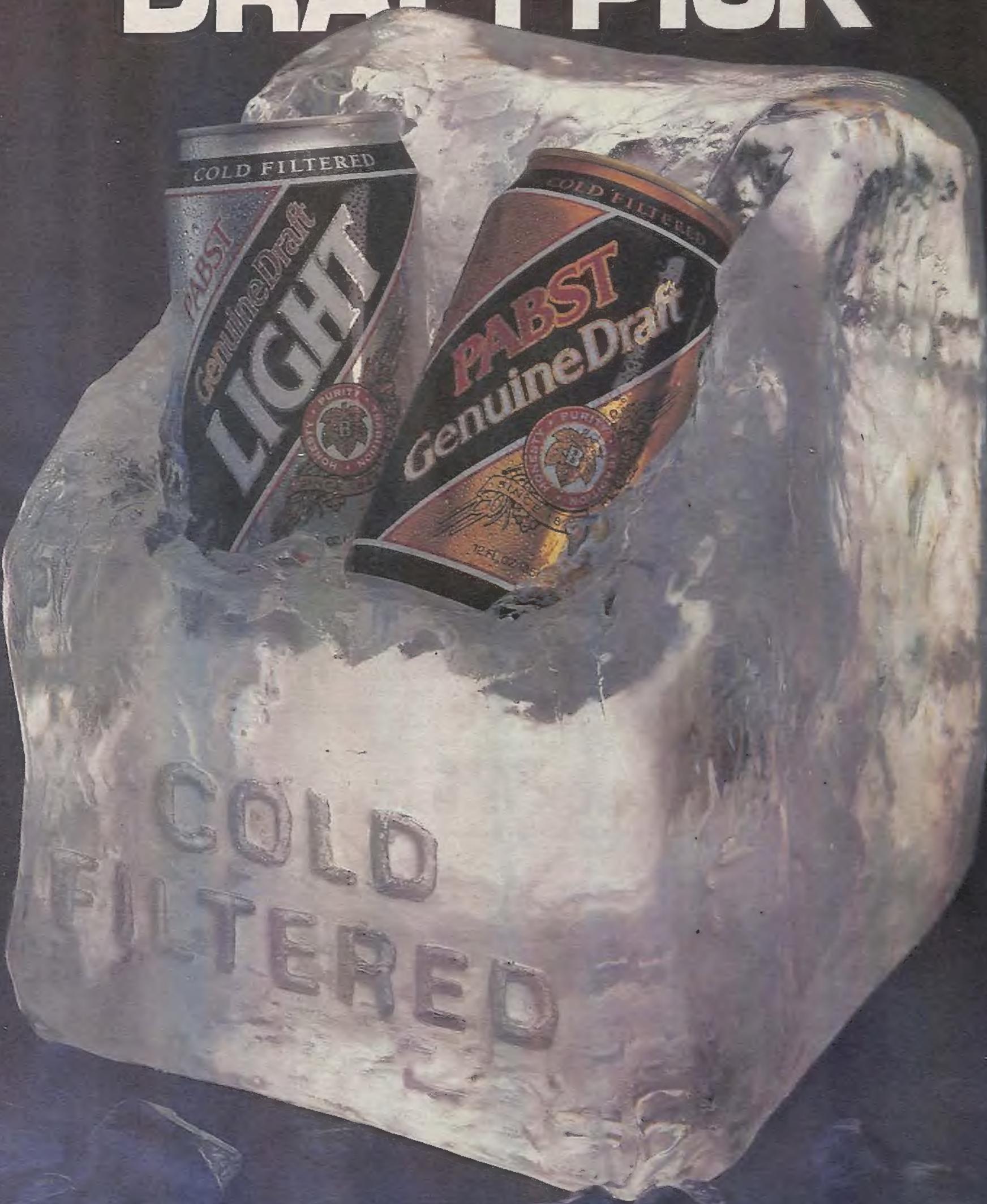
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